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THE TIMES

Tycoon in love with
the energy
business, page 9

US ready to station technicians in Sinai as peace guarantee

though significant differences remain between Israel and Egypt over an interim peace agreement, a weekend meeting near Bonn between Dr Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, and Mr Rabin, the Israel Prime Minister, brought some hints of progress. Among new ideas to be discussed is the sending of American technicians to Sinai to act as observers along a new disengagement line.

Mr Rabin sees no quick solution

Mr Patrick Brogan, Washington, July 13. The Americans are seriously considering sending technicians to the Sinai desert to observe Egyptian movements west of the new disengagement line between the Egyptian and Israeli zones.

A physical American presence along the line would be a sort of guarantee which might induce Israel to accept Egyptian conditions for a troop withdrawal, and might represent a radical change of policy by each of the countries involved.

Israel is ready to withdraw troops into Sinai in exchange for an Egyptian non-belligerent agreement, which might last for three years. Israel is reluctant, however, to give up the Sinai and Gidi passes through the western Sinai unilaterally, because they control access to the whole of Israel and eastern Sinai and to the main part of Israel.

The Israelis are also most reluctant to give up the advantage of their observation posts along the mountain tops, in which every Egyptian movement as far as the Suez Canal can be seen.

A further withdrawal, the Israelis would become part of the new Nations zone between the armies.

Great pressure is being put on the Israelis to agree to a new line. The fact that America is now getting involved was known to reporters flying from Kissinger from Bonn to London yesterday after his talks with Mr Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister.

The Secretary of State would not have permitted such a disclosure unless he thought that it would agree. He will discuss the matter with President Nixon this evening.

Mr Kissinger is to make an announcement in Washington tonight. Dr Kissinger said significant differences remained between the two sides, and that the next few weeks would show whether they could be resolved. It is believed that among matters still to be settled are the precise line of demarcation (which remains the crucial issue), Egyptian access to the Abu Rodeis oil field, and American political and economic guarantees to Israel.

As for the oilfields, Israel has already admitted that it must give them up in the next disengagement, but wants an American guarantee of oil supplies afterwards. The rest of the Carrot Dr Kissinger has to offer Israel is the promise to deal sympathetically with its request for \$2,500m (£1,300m) in economic and military aid.

That would probably go through Congress, but for Congress to accept the partitioning of American troops in the Middle East to guarantee the peace—this is what "observers" amount to—might prove a different matter.

Moshe Barzilay writes from Tel Aviv: After a four-hour meeting in Jerusalem today, the Israeli Government stood firm on its terms for an American-sponsored interim agreement with Egypt and authorized a committee of ministers to continue clarification and negotiation.

The decision was taken after Mr Rabin reported on his Bonn meeting with Dr Kissinger. The ministers noted some constructive progress but saw no need to adopt new resolutions at present.

So the negotiations have demonstrably shifted into low gear. The next step is that Mr Dinitz, the Israeli Ambassador who is awaiting in Washington with Israel's latest reactions, is to accompany Mr Allon, the Foreign Minister, to London tomorrow for a conference of Israeli ambassadors, and will reach Washington later this week.

Mr Rabin has told Cabinet colleagues and journalists that Israel will not negotiate under pressure of deadlines such as July 24, when the three months' extension of the United Nations emergency force's mandate expires.

He said the United States agreed to wait until the appeal against target dates, and the negotiations might drag on for up to six months. There was no



Tom Watson, the American golfer, and his wife celebrate his victory in the play-off for the British Open yesterday. Report, page 10.

More than 300 feared dead in Angola fighting

Luanda, July 13.—Fighting between rival Angolan liberation movements intensified early today and the death toll was feared to have reached 300.

Mortar and cannon fire resounded in Luanda and shells ripped through buildings.

More than 2,500 have been killed since the troubles began in January this year.

Eyewitnesses said they saw armoured cars manned by troops of the Marxist Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola. Among the weapons being used were 100mm recoilless anti-tank guns.

All hotels in the centre of the capital were reported to be packed with refugees from the fighting, which has been largely between the Marxists and the Zaïre-based National Front for the Liberation of Angola.

People have been streaming into the centre of Luanda, abandoning suburban homes for the security of hotels and flats of relatives and friends.

Conditions at hospitals were chaotic, with doctors and nurses unable to handle the stream of casualties. Some wounded people were seen lying in hospital corridors for lack of beds.

About 1,000 people were believed to have taken refuge in the Portuguese naval base at Luanda harbour. Hundreds more spent the night on the lawns of the Government palace, where they were assisted this morning for assistance.—Reuters.

IRA escaper among men held in Liverpool

From Christopher Walker, Belfast

The discovery of a large arms and explosives dump on Merseyside and the arrest by Liverpool police of a leading member of the Provisional IRA are being taken as confirmation of the theory reported to the Government by Army intelligence that any break in the ceasefire will be accompanied by an intensified campaign in Britain.

The discovery of the cache is taken by the Northern Ireland authorities not as an indication that hostilities are to be renewed immediately, but rather that the Provisionals are making contingency plans in preparation for a possible breakdown in the truce.

With the ceasefire now in its 16th consecutive day, any attempt to resume the campaign in exactly its old format would certainly meet resistance from many ordinary residents in republican areas of Ulster enjoying the unaccustomed atmosphere of relative peace.

It is not thought that there would be any such opposition to a resumption of bombing in England.

Another reason behind the Provisionals' strategy is the conviction that a resumption of violence on the mainland would increase the pressure in Parliament for a British withdrawal.

There is also the vital role of world publicity. "In terms of headlines, one bomb in Oxford Street is worth 10 in Belfast," an IRA source explained.

One of the Irishmen detained in Liverpool is reported by Dublin police sources to be Mr Sean Kinsella, a hardline member of the Provisional IRA who escaped a year ago from the republic's top security jail at Portlaoise, with his brother, Michael, after a hole had been blasted in the front gate.

Mr Kinsella, 19, is an IRA member in the breakout, and of the 12 still at large it is thought that a number might be involved in preparations for a new campaign in Britain. At the time of the escape both Kinsella brothers had served just over two months of life sentences they received for the murder last year of Mr Billy Fox, a Protestant member of the Irish Senate.

His presence in England is taken as an indication that the Provisionals are once again involved in setting up and equipping small, active service units similar to those that have carried out attacks in the past on targets in Britain's large cities.

Railwaymen get back right to closed shop

Railway unions have won their right to have membership regarded as a condition of employment, the National Union of Railwaymen announced last night on the eve of annual conference in London.

The agreement comes into effect on August 4. From then all new entrants will have to be members of one of the railway unions.

Those already employed will have to apply for membership, and a special exemption for David Bowman, president of the NUR, which has 180,000 members, said last night: "We really welcome the agreement. Being members of a union will help to give railwaymen more of a sense of responsibility and more permanence. We will probably gain new thousand members."

Ban on reporting Gandhi appeal

From Peter Hazelhurst, Delhi, July 13

India moved closer towards a prolonged period of dictatorial rule over the weekend when the Government issued a new set of orders. These prohibited the press from publishing accounts of the forthcoming session of Parliament or proceedings in the Supreme Court which is due to hear an appeal by Mrs Gandhi, the Prime Minister, against charges of corrupt electoral practices.

Editors who received the new guidelines from the Government's Press Information Bureau yesterday were also instructed not to publish the new regulations. The press is also prohibited from publishing any statement by a representative of the four extremist organizations which were banned last week.

The new measures apparently are designed to prevent the press from using its special privileges of reporting procedures in Parliament and the courts with immunity. The orders were issued yesterday when it became known that the ruling members of the Opposition who have not been detained intend to launch a bitter attack against the Government when Parliament meets on July 21 to endorse the state of emergency.

At first sight it would appear as though the new guidelines on press freedom would prevent the press from publishing the ruling of the Supreme Court if it gives an unfavourable judgment on Mrs Gandhi's appeal.

The Prime Minister, who was found guilty last month of corrupt electoral practices in 1971 by the Allahabad High Court, could be banned from participating in politics for six years if she loses her appeal in the Supreme Court.

After studying the new guidelines to the press today, many Indian journalists claimed that the restrictions indicate that the Prime Minister does not intend to step down even if the Supreme Court upholds the High Court's ruling. In the meantime, several Delhi journalists indicated today that they intend to ask the Supreme Court to hold the Government in contempt if it censors or deletes reports on the proceedings of the court.

Unconfirmed reports today also suggest that the Government has issued a warrant for the arrest of Mr Era Seshiyar, leader in Parliament of the South Indian Tamil party, the Dravidian Progressive Federation. A senior official refused to discuss the report, declaring: "All rumours are denied."

Copies of the latest editions of the more extreme left-wing newspapers from West Bengal indicate that, unlike the bulk

Big cutbacks at Post Office

Post Office will be the first victim of Chancellor's clampdown on state industry wage bills. Mail and telephone services are certain to be affected. A programme of cutbacks in the labour force is being prepared, and talks will be going place with unions on reducing manning levels, restricting recruitment, redeployment to ease the scale of missals. A reduction in the corporation's vital investment plans is likely.

Union move against pay curbs

Militant trade union opponents of the Government's anti-inflation measures are setting out to make the TUC-based policy unworkable. Resolutions flouting opposing the policy or attaching conditions are being submitted for the TUC conference in September.

US still rebellious

A call to reunite the United States with England and ask forgiveness for its rebellion against the Crown has met a mixed reception. The Committee for Reunion with England has received letters ranging from "enthusiastic approbation to downright hostility."

Turkey-US 'crisis'

Local decisions on defence cooperation between the United States and Turkey are being made this week. The Turkish press are determined to revise the 1967 agreement of a crisis of confidence to the attitude of the American press.

Civil Service courses

Courses designed to equip future senior civil servants for running a country regarded as increasingly difficult to govern are to be introduced by the Civil Service College in October. The most striking element is a course entitled "The changing environment of government."

Leyland 'dumping'

The American United Auto Workers Union has accused British Leyland of violating the United States Anti-dumping Act by selling Morris Minors for less than the United Kingdom retail price.

School leaving fear

Teachers are worried that the decision to allow pupils aged 16 to leave school six weeks earlier will increase the risk of their drifting into violence. At an annual conference in Brighton, fears are also expressed about the effect on employment.

Riot force in Bilbao

The sudden, unannounced arrival in Bilbao of a specially trained riot force of 900 is puzzling foreign diplomats and Basque lawyers, in view of the fact that the Government's "state of exception" is expected to be lifted later this month.

Man killed in Belfast shooting

A Protestant aged 21 was killed and another man injured in a shooting outside an Ulster Defence Association club in Upper Malone Road, Belfast, last night. The injured man is suffering from back and arm wounds, but last night was not, according to the police, in a serious condition.

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Arts, page 8
David Robinson at the Berlin Film Festival; William Mann on Cost Jan ture (Covent Garden) and the LPO under Popescu (Festival Hall).
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Cricket: John Woodcock calls for a new England captain; Racing: Weekend review and St Cloud prospects.
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Financial Editor: Equities: still waiting for a longer-term trend; Glits: Timing is everything; Equity capital: US demand and supply.
Management: Professor Ionis Macheath of the London Business School examines management attitudes on redundancy.

A split second of detente

Moscow, July 13.—Detente can even change the time of day. Official Soviet time has been advanced by one thousandth of a second to synchronise it with United States time for the joint space mission beginning on Tuesday—UPI.

Labour left fights to control party's executive committee

By Michael Hatfield

Political Staff

The Labour Party is lining itself up for one of those classic power struggles between the moderates and the left, and the outcome could be the dominance of the militant faction on the policy-making national executive committee.

The traditional hold that the centre-right has had on the national executive has been eroded slowly over the years and this year the left is poised to get control. The outcome of the struggle will be decided when the party conference votes that could finally tip the balance on the national executive of 29 members.

Two right-wingers, Mr John Cartwright, Labour MP for Greenwich, Woolwich East, and Mr Sidney Vincent, of the National Union of Mineworkers, have lost their nominations to left candidates, Mr Richard Balfe, of the Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society, and Mr Emylin Williams, the South Wales miners' leader.

If the left-wingers are elected that could finally tip the balance on the national executive of 29 members. Mr Hooley, Chancellor of the Exchequer, however, is also under strong threat from Mr Eric Heffer, Labour MP for Liverpool, Walton, who has come near to defeating him for an executive seat in previous years.

It is felt that Mr Heffer's position has been considerably strengthened by Mr Healey's commitment to the Government's new economic policies.

The fight for a place on the national executive is more than just a clash between personalities. It is known, for example, that the left would like to see the leader of the party elected by the conference and not by the constituency of independent Parliamentary Labour Party.

That argument is again being suggested in some left circles and a majority on the national executive could help to further the cause.

Under such a threat of left-wing dominance, the centre-right has been attempting to formulate a counter-strategy, but without success so far. One proposal, which has been discussed by parliamentary private secretaries to some ministers, is that the moderates should set out to devalue the role of the national executive if they lose control.

They have argued that the increasing left-wing stance being adopted by the national executive, including repeated criticisms of government policy, bears no relevance to the general view of the Parliamentary Labour Party.

But that view, which has been canvassed by a small group who are members of the centre-right Manifesto Group, is being severely criticised by some of their colleagues as being irresponsible. It is argued that such a policy would ignore the fact that it is the national executive which formulates the party programme and ultimately the general election manifesto, and that it also controls the party machine.

The main hope being expressed is that the leaders of the big trade unions, particularly Mr Jack Jones, who have some of the largest contingents at the conference, would not allow the left to get too strong a grip on the executive. There is a strong belief that it would not be to the unions' advantage to allow a fundamental shift in the balance, particularly as many of the union leaders are supporting the Government.

The left, for its part, believes that attempts are being made to inhibit the policy-making powers of the national executive. That is one reason why they are resisting a suggestion from Mr Ronald Hayward, the party's general secretary, that the various committees should cut back on their meetings, although Mr Hayward's reason for the suggestion was to cut expenditure.

Party policy makers to discuss national plan

By Our Political Staff

Labour Party policymakers, including some Cabinet ministers, are to discuss proposals tonight for a new national plan. To avoid a repetition of the disastrous failure of the previous experiment, strong interventionist teeth are recommended.

The proposal is contained in a document to be discussed in the party's home policy committee. If approved, it will go before the full national executive committee and then to the annual conference for endorsement as party policy.

Cabinet ministers who sit on the home policy committee include Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, and Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, who is chairman.

The document states that the new National Economic and Industrial Plan would be much more indicative than the 1965 model, since through the National Enterprise Board and the planning agreements system "the Government would be able to ensure that its broad strategy was being followed."

It states: "The targets will thus be set in consultation with industry, but, unlike the 1965 effort, the Government would have the decisive leverage needed to ensure that targets and priorities were being met to a great extent as possible."

But it adds: "At the same time, of course, the plan would be very much less than 'imperative'; it would seek only to set out the broad strategies to be followed and would not attempt to lay down the tactics of companies and products should be produced by each firm, in what quantities and in what places."

However, it calls for further legislation for additional powers, including the right to invest in individual companies.

Continued on page 2, col 6

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HOME NEWS

New courses will teach top civil servants how to run a nation increasingly hard to govern

By Peter Hain
The Civil Service College will introduce in October new courses for future top civil servants designed to equip them for running a country which has become increasingly difficult to govern.
The most striking element in the new training provision, which is based on a remodelling of programmes, is a course entitled "The changing environment of government". It has been developed by a committee of civil servants, academics and sociologists and will be given by young administrators in their 20s, for two years and a half, after joining the Civil Service as part of the second two 10-week training sessions or administration trainees.
The course is intended to impress on the young administrator the need to understand and gauge what is happening outside Whitehall before taking any decision that will affect society at large. Practical illustration will be provided by case studies of the formulation, implementation, monitoring and review of previous government decisions.
The Civil Service College, which recently celebrated its 10th anniversary of its foundation, devotes only 15 per cent of its resources to the training of young administrators, more than 60 per cent of its efforts are absorbed in management training for higher and senior executive officers. But the training of future top civil servants is regarded as being of the highest importance.
The pattern the college has developed represents a halfway-house between the pre-1960 position in Britain, when top civil servants received minimal formal training, learning their craft "through the pores" in the course of their careers, and the intensive, specialised four-year training given in the most able recruits to the French civil service by the *Grandes Ecoles*.
Many senior civil servants in Whitehall believe that the highly trained specialists of the French *Grandes Ecoles* are more than a match for their generalist British equivalents, particularly in economic affairs.
After the publication of the Fulton report in 1968, the Labour government of that time considered the establishment of a *Grandes Ecoles* system in Britain but ruled it out on the ground that it would increase the very elitism in the upper echelons of the Civil Service that the Labour party was determined to reduce.
Mr Wilson personally ruled out a suggestion that the Civil Service Commission should adopt a "preference for relevance" in its recruitment procedures designed to give an advantage to candidates with "relevant" degrees in economics and the social sciences over the classicists and historians, who tended to enter the service in large numbers.
The Conservative government of Mr Heath considered the question of establishing an equivalent of L'Ecole Nationale d'Administration to enhance the management skills of private industry as well as the Civil Service. The idea was again rejected, partly because it would have engendered strong opposition from the Civil Service unions.
In the light of those decisions, the broad generalist training provision of the Civil Service College was largely predetermined.
Senior officials of the college emphasize the superiority of the British system in training middle management grades of the service. To adopt the French approach, they argue, and create 50 "super" civil servants a year would lead to an unacceptable deterioration in training for the broad and equally important areas of the service.

Old flower market as Theatre Museum

By John Young
Planning Reporter
The Greater London Council is "fairly confident" that the new Theatre Museum will be housed in the basement of the former Covent Garden flower market, and not in Somerset House. But negotiations are continuing with the Government on the question of rent.
The council's decision to advertise in *The Times* for tenants for the building is to test the degree of interest. Even with the museum project there still remains some 29,000 sq ft of space on the ground floor.
The GLC Covent Garden development team has received some 40 suggestions but, it says, "few have been seriously pursued by the applicants". The obvious use is an exhibition centre, but the council would probably prefer a permanent tenant or tenants.
Suggestions received for the space include a horticultural centre, "a showplace at a time when gardening has become a main growth industry", and a "water garden" with swimming and health baths. The last, it is said, would be visually attractive, but might conflict with the use of the basement for the museum.



With a fictional disaster well under way, emergency services are coordinating rescue work from the Thames flood control centre in Kingsway train tunnel.

Simulated emergency tests how well London could cope with Thames flood

By Our Planning Reporter
At the moment, the Thames is just beginning to overflow its banks, the woman from the Greater London Council said. The time was just before midday yesterday, and we were standing in a prefabricated hut in the former tram tunnel underneath Kingsway.
The occasion was the first full-scale testing of the GLC's emergency flood procedure. Code-named in military terms Exercise Floodpro, it involved some sixty people taking and passing on telephone messages and looking appropriately serious and harassed.
For the purposes of the exercise, staff at County Hall were conjuring up the sort of combination of heavy rains, easterly gales and spring tides which, we are warned, could occur at any time before the Thames barrage is completed.
The idea is that in the event of a real emergency the river-side boroughs should provide the control centre with up-to-the-minute reports of the situation. Those reports would be passed on to the police, the fire brigades, the ambulance service, the Army and voluntary organizations concerned with saving lives and preventing panic.
"Quite clearly, we are going to find a lot of faults in the system", Mr Arthur Edwards, chairman of the GLC's public services committee, said. "But we shall not know if there is a need to repeat the exercise until we have had a full report on how today went."
Mr Peter Cunneen, the council's Thames Flood Coordinator, added that some 600,000 people lived in the potential flood area. By 12.30 pm yesterday the mythical overflow had reached upstream as far as Westminster Bridge.

Community paper's report was inaccurate

A complaint against a community group newspaper about a reference to a woman who had appeared in court on an assault charge has been upheld by the Press Council.
Mrs Norma Russell of Brainerd Street, Liverpool, complained that *The Bugle* published by the Stoneycroft Community Group, Liverpool, printed a reference to her being bound over for assault which misrepresented the position and was prejudicial to her character.
The report said that Mrs Russell, aged 40, pleaded guilty at Liverpool Magistrates' Court to assaulting an 11-year-old child. The final two paragraphs read: "Although the magistrates wanted to give Mrs Russell a more severe sentence they could only give the maximum allowed by the laws of the land for such an offence on the first time. The maximum sentence that Mrs Russell received was to be bound over to keep the peace for 12 months on a surety of £25."
Mrs Russell's solicitors said there was no question of the magistrates having wished to give a more severe sentence than they could. The report was not a fair appraisal.
The reply of Stoneycroft Community Group, of which Mr Maher, father of the assaulted child, was a committee member, said there was no doubt the chairman of the magistrates wished to give Mrs Russell a more severe sentence. After he sentenced her to be bound over for two years on a surety of £25, the clerk pointed out that the maximum was for one year, as it was a first offence. The chairman then adjusted the sentence.
The Press Council's adjudication, issued today, was: "This is a community newspaper without professional advice and the news item was published under a complete misapprehension as to what the legal powers of the magistrates were. In fact, they had powers to fine or imprison. They decided only in kind over Mrs Russell. The news story was therefore inaccurate and the complaint against *The Bugle* is upheld."

Decline in charity donations 'forcing millions to edge of life itself'

A decline in donations resulting from the expected recession in Britain has forced at least two or three years could be a "tragic blow", contending some charities with almost insurmountable difficulties.
Mr Michael Rowntree, chairman of Oxfam, said at the society's annual meeting on Saturday.
He said the decline was forcing millions of poor people in developing countries to the edge of life itself. For them, simply staying alive is a desperate drama performed every day and acted out on a bare stage to a largely unconcerned world audience.
He hoped that everyone in the West would count the true cost of inflation, and that those who found it difficult to give cash would offer voluntary service instead.
"It is possible to put men on the Moon, and for Russians and Americans to fraternize in outer space from mobile homes of incredible expense, surely it is within mankind's ability to see that no one on this small planet dies for want of food, or is incapable of work because of malnourishment."
Mr Rowntree said there was no doubt that during Mrs Judith Hart's term of office the Ministry for Overseas Development adopted policies more flexible and progressive than those of her predecessor, Mr Reg Prentice, would develop that imaginative approach, and would ensure that Britain's economic ills were not used as an excuse

Rugby School to admit girls to sixth form

From Our Correspondent
Girls will be admitted to Rugby School in September next year, Sir Patrick Dean, chairman of the governing body announced on Saturday.
There were 2,000 girls in sixth forms in Headmasters' Conference schools, he said, and Rugby had had frequent inquiries about offering places. About ten girls would enter the sixth form. Local girls would live with their families, and possibly any others would live with a master's family in the area of the school.

Airship touring Britain on advertising mission

From Philip Howard
London, Kent
A great floating pie in the sky, the airship holiday-makers along the Kent coast yesterday. The airship Europa had come home for a summer tour of the country where it was built in 1972.
The flying silver cigar, 192ft long, was built by the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, which has manufactured 300 lighter-than-air craft since 1917. Its purpose is partly to advertise the most conspicuous way the company's name and livery of winged sandals of Hermes it suits.
The Europa is fitted with 560 lamps for flashing incandescent light messages from the sky, an advertising activity at present illegal in this country. It was allowed, it could flash in red, green, blue, and yellow legible a mile away.
Large crowds gathered at the airship's launch in his air and other dignitaries take the first ascent. Although much more advanced than the hot air balloon made of

Retiring to seaside may be a big mistake

By a Staff Reporter
Retired couples who plan to start new lives by the seaside could be making the biggest mistake of their lives, a joint report by the Pre-Retirement Association and Age Concern says today.
Many elderly people might find themselves cut off from family and friends and find the cost of buying a home prohibitive, it says.
The danger is that elderly people move to another part of the country where they have previously enjoyed holidays, without realizing that living there permanently can be very different from the happy holiday atmosphere of a fortnight away in the summer. The experience of many people has left them wishing that they had thought twice before uprooting themselves from their original home.
The report aims at advising elderly people before they make up their minds to retire near the seaside or in the country.
Dr Fred Kemp, director of the Pre-Retirement Association, said yesterday: "Our object is not to put people off moving home, but simply to make sure they weigh all the pros and cons first. The fact is that some people have found moving home was the worst mistake of their lives, often because it was not given sufficient thought in advance."
A leaflet, *Lower than a holiday*, is obtainable from the Pre-Retirement Association, Greenfield House, 69-75 Manor Road, Wallington, Surrey SM5 0DQ, or Age Concern, Bernard Sunley House, 60 Pitts Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 3LL. Price 10p.

Museums liaison meeting

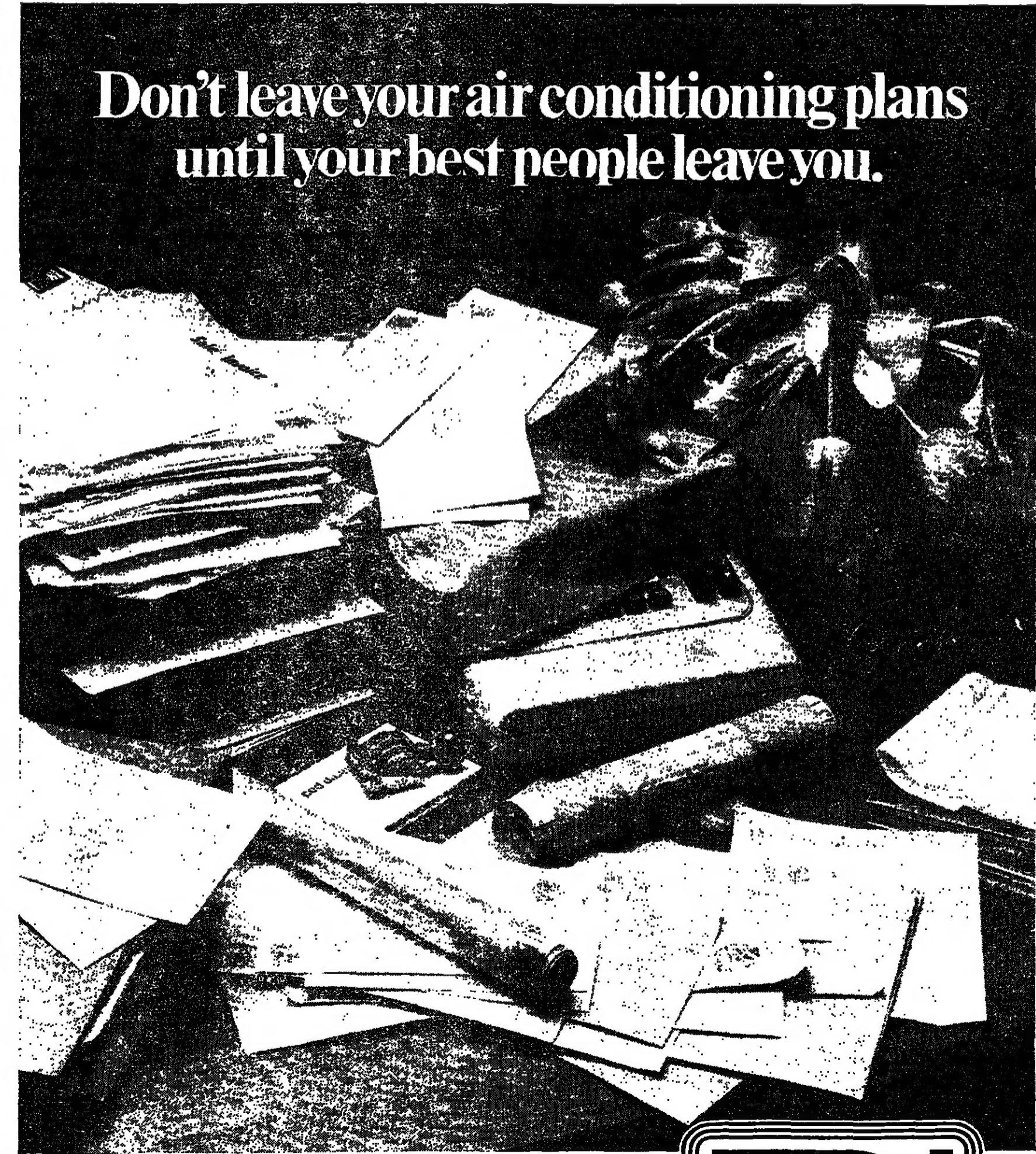
Our Arts Reporter
Ways of improving co-operation between local and national museums and galleries will be discussed in Durham by delegates to the annual conference of the Museums Association.
Realistic regional policy and advice for the arts, which are the other main topics. Delegates representing 950 museums will meet Mr Jenkins, minister responsible for the arts, who is addressing them today, and the directors of most of the national museums.
The controversy over the wealth tax will be prominent in the discussions. In its submission on the subject, the association has referred to its effect in depleting existing private collections and the withdrawal of some loans from public museums.
Purchasing resources of public museums and galleries are "grossly inadequate", the association says.

How the exiled Donalds rallied to save Ian's lands from strangers' hands

Happily for the Clan Donald, as is known to Scottish exiles, the exiled Scot, William, Americans, Canadians and Australians whose forefathers were cleared thence from the Highlands or a country they may never have seen but know everything about.
Their kilt and regalia are spatched by experts from Edinburgh, authentic to the last tartan shade and kilt pin. They celebrate Scottish occasions with profound dedication, and because their own country is relatively new, they enjoy having their roots possessed and transplanted in a raw, rich history of their central land.
For the Clan Donald, perhaps the largest of the Scottish clans, at nostalgia among exiles has been the clan lands. The Donalds were fortunate in having an impressive number of plots (branches) and adherents to be allowed to support a call for a great gathering, wallets and emptying of purses. It came from Lord Macdonald, Chief of the Name of Arms of Macdonald.
His declaration said: "I, Macdonald of Macdonald, with the full support of the chiefs of Glengarry, Clannaird and Clannachan, the first worldwide appeal to all clansmen. The story of the traditional lands of a clan in Scotland, which stretch from Skye to Isle of Man, were about to end. They might pass out of the clan into the hands of

Regional report Ronald Faux Edinburgh

strangers. Surely that could not be allowed to happen? Could they allow the clan to become landless, to have no home in Scotland?
From Los Angeles to Toronto came a resounding "No". There was strong support for the scheme to form a trust of clansmen to buy the lands and create a traditional home for the clan. With a final jerk at the exiled heart, the appeal declared that all clansmen could then claim a stake in the clan lands. "Who amongst you can be moved by the prospect of walking your own hills with pride and pleasure?"
Soon £200,000 advanced across the Atlantic, helped partly by the elastic-sided nature of the list of those eligible. A Donald by several other names, it seems, is still a Donald.
The clan door is welcomingly open to all Alocks, Ballocks, Bullocks and Callans, the Crombies, Crooms and MacDrains: the MacGillivraics and Macsporrans also qualify along with the Cambriges and Wilkinsons. Two less obviously eligible sept. The list is impressively long.



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And when combined with heat recovery, air conditioning can re-use the heat created inside the building - by lights, machines and people.

It all adds up to more efficient use of energy resources. Electrical, and human.

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AIR CONDITIONING FOR COMFORT

THE ELECTRICITY COUNCIL, ENGLAND & WALES

HOME NEWS

Teachers fear earlier school leaving may increase violence risk

By Tim Devlin
Education Correspondent

Young people will face a greater risk of drifting into violence in the streets with the Government's decision to allow pupils aged 16 to leave school six weeks earlier, careers teachers said this weekend. At their annual conference in Brighton, many attacked the decision of Mr. Mulley, Secretary of State for Education and Science, particularly if, as is likely, it becomes the only school leaving date.

Mr. Raymond Heppell, president of the National Association of Careers and Guidance Teachers, said that companies generally had their greatest number of vacancies in September and they could not be expected to bring their recruiting dates forward. But, meanwhile, the youngsters would be parading the streets for a month longer, getting into rough mobs, and would be even less likely to take jobs in the autumn, he said.

Mr. Mulley last week said that 16-year-olds could leave at the summer Bank Holiday instead of waiting until the end of term. He dropped a strong hint that the earlier leaving date would be desirable.

Mr. Dai Cleaton, assistant principal careers officer for Wiltshire, said the decision was very depressing. "Education is retreating under the pressure of examinations. For years the examinations boards have been holding their examinations earlier and earlier for their administrative convenience."

"This has left teachers, particularly careers teachers, with the challenging job of devising courses for the youngsters after they had finished examinations. Of course, teachers regard the

decision as a godsend, but it is cutting into children's education."

Other teachers said that a single leaving date in the summer at this time of high unemployment would flood the employment market with 16-year-old applicants. It would deter many from staying on to take their O level GCE Examinations.

Mr. Jeffrey Engel, of Edge Hill College, Lancashire, said: "We must guard against hysteria. Some of the youngsters will have to face the fact that they will be unemployed and schools must be flexible enough to take them back into sixth-form courses."

Mr. Robert Foster, of Thomas More High School, Wigan, said that stories of mass unemployment of youngsters had been overplayed and were scaring school leavers into grabbing the first jobs that came along. Some school leavers who had provisional offers of craft apprenticeships in big engineering firms, like British Leyland and Hawker Siddeley Aviation, were not waiting for the offers to become definite. They were taking jobs in factories, he said.

Other teachers spoke of boys with good O-levels taking jobs as delivery roundsmen. One career teacher told me: "They will get browned off by autumn and join the dole queues when they are even bigger."

Mr. Joseph Edge, conference organizer and careers teacher at Beaufoy's School, south London, said that of his school's 300 leavers only half would get jobs. "We must train them not to give up looking for jobs, to overcome the depressing experience of unemployment and to keep in touch with their careers officers. They must also learn to look for jobs outside London," he said.

Pupils who cannot find jobs to demand £25 a week

By a Staff Reporter

The National Union of School Students, whose membership has risen to 15,000 in its three years' existence although it is outlawed by many headmasters, decided yesterday to demand £25 a week for school leavers who cannot get jobs. At present unemployed school leavers receive about £7.50 a week social security payment.

The union also decided at its third annual conference in London to oppose forthcoming cuts in education, to demand full university student grants of £875, a "right to fight" for the right to organize in schools where it is banned.

The 78 delegates and observers from the union's 60 branches—about 10 per cent were said to have been prevented from attending by their parents—have yet to decide on the measures they can take in support of their claims, but demonstrations, letters to MPs, and ultimately strikes are the

kind of tactics they expect to use.

Union action will be tempered, however, by members' desire to show themselves as a responsible organization which wants to contribute positive ideas to education, and not cause disruption. That was explained by Mr. Simon Emerson, aged 19, the retiring president, who is shortly to start a sociology degree course at Lancaster University. He has just taken a year off after his A level examinations to work for the union.

The union's main complaint concerns large classes and poor conditions in many schools. It says these are largely responsible for the lack of qualifications among school leavers and explain why so many are finding it hard to get jobs.

Although a few schools openly allow the union to organize meetings and distribute pamphlets, most take a hard line, according to delegates, often expelling pupils known to be involved.

Centre will aid deaf

A new centre equipped with a teleprinter is to open in Northamptonshire today to receive urgent messages from deaf people who cannot use telephones. The deaf will be able to get in touch with police, fire or ambulance

Boat charge man back

Norman Hopburn, aged 26, a deckhand, has been flown back to Britain from Esbjerg, Denmark, and is to appear in court this week on charges connected with the disappearance from Grimsby of a £40,000 boat on July 4.



"I expect my concern for old people to be still working 100 years from now"

Harry Secombe

"I've had a good life. I hope I've also given people some enjoyment. But there's nothing good or enjoyable about the life of an old person—stuck in depressing, ramshackle rooms. The loneliness must be horrible."

So I want to return some thanks to life, and let what money I can spare go on working through Help the Aged, to help provide Day Centres for lonely old folk at home; and food and practical help for the forgotten old people in hunger-stricken countries."

Even a modest legacy can start a new Day Centre in an area of special need. Under new "Gift Tax" legislation gifts to charities are exempt from Capital Transfer Tax; and even if a donor dies within a year, or makes a bequest on death, the exemption limit is raised to £100,000.

Commemorate someone dear to you now. £150 inscribes a name on the Founder's Plaque of a new Day Centre. £100 names a hospital bed in perpetuity overseas.

The Hon. Treasurer, the Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room T3L, 8 Denman Street, London W1A 2AP.

WEST EUROPE AND OVERSEAS

Russians all set for joint space mission

Moscow, July 13.—Soviet space engineers, preparing this week's joint flight with the Americans, today moved their reserve Soyuz spacecraft to its launching pad at Baikonur, joining the first Soyuz now being primed for Tuesday's blast off.

Officials in Moscow confirmed that all preparations on the Soyuz side were on schedule. The second Soyuz, a two-man vehicle identical with the prime ship placed on its pad yesterday, will be launched if there are problems orbiting the first spacecraft, or if the first crew have to return before the American Apollo can be launched.

An official weather forecast for the launch region east of the Aral Sea in Kazakhstan, today predicted a cooling from last week's 110°F on Tuesday, to about 85°F on Tuesday, with moderate north winds.

The prime Soyuz was being given final checks after being positioned in its complex support gantries early yesterday by a rail transporter bringing it from the assembly sheds about a mile away.

At seven ground tracking stations across the Soviet Union technicians were preparing for the six-day flight of the Soyuz and the Apollo's nine days in space. In addition two Soviet Academy of Sciences tracking ships were anchored in position in the Atlantic.

The flagship, Yuri Gagarin, a 30,000-ton vessel fitted with three giant radar tracking bowls, has taken position off Newfoundland, and the Academician Sergei Korolev is at anchor off Cuba.

In a further move to smooth the way for the flight the Soviet Union today moved its clocks one-tenth of a second forward, to bring them exactly into line with the United States time. This is intended to avoid any hairbreadth differences in giving commands to the Apollo and Soyuz which, travelling at speeds over 17,000 miles an hour, could conceivably be fatal.

Edmund Stevens, writes from Moscow: The Soviet authorities have refused to relent and allow representatives of the foreign press to watch the launching at Baikonur although a polygraph press force of 500 correspondents from 45 countries has converged on Moscow for the event.

As things stand, the only Americans going to Baikonur will be Mr. Walter Stoessel, the Ambassador, and Mrs. Stoessel. The foreign press, together with some 200 Soviet reporters and interpreters, will be obliged to cover the Soviet side of the mission from the third floor of the Hotel Inzhinir, 1,800 miles from the action.

Compromise likely

on Helsinki summit

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, July 13
The 35-nation European Security Conference is expected to make another attempt tomorrow formally to fix the opening of the Helsinki summit for July 30. Preparations in the Finnish capital are now proceeding apace on the assumption that this will be the date.

The argument and frustration caused last week by Malta refusing to fall into line on the consensus, mandatory for all documents, until it secured mention in the Mediterranean text of the desirability of foreign forces being removed from there, have apparently led to compromise.

Barring a change of heart over the weekend, Malta is now said to be agreeable to a suitably imprecise formulation—in principle everyone subscribes, of course, to the vague idea of all armed forces being reduced some time or other—but the label of long-term political objective.

If so, and provided the power block philosophers have not detected Machiavellian Maltese ambiguity lurking behind innocuous phrases, the coordinating committee may reach agreement tomorrow.

In economic (most favoured nation treatment) and confidence-building measures (military manoeuvres) a few points have still to be decided. But none of them is likely to lead to serious clashes.

Policemen killed

by explosion in Spanish Sahara

El Aaiun, Spanish Sahara, July 13.—Three policemen died and a fourth was seriously injured today while trying to dispose of a bomb in a suburb of the capital of the disputed Spanish Sahara, police said.

They were checking a suspicious-looking parcel, left overnight in the middle of a street, when it exploded. Nearby police fired at the blast of fire. Policar, the leftist liberation movement which opposes the Spanish presence, as well as claims by Morocco and Mauritania to the phosphate-rich territory.

The eight-year-old son of a Spanish Sahara deputy in the Madrid Cortes (Parliament) was killed last night and his nine-year-old brother was seriously injured when another bomb exploded in a parked car in which they were sitting—Reuters.



Mr. Donald Slayton rubbing the rain out of his hair yesterday after he and his fellow astronaut, Mr. Vance Brand, landed in a thunderstorm at Patrick Air Force base, Florida, in preparation for their flight tomorrow on the Soviet-American space mission. The recurrent storms have given concern to American technicians preparing for the launch.

Two-day chase by astronauts to end in docking on Thursday

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

The Soviet-American space flight starting tomorrow, which aims to show how a rescue mission can be carried out, should rank second only to the moon landings in the annals of space travel.

The American team preparing an Apollo craft for the eventual rendezvous with a Russian Soyuz are taking every conceivable precaution to ensure the project begins on time. Even the local weather can be changed at the Kennedy Space Centre, Florida, if the launch site is threatened by storm clouds.

However, there are many imponderables because the Russian craft has to be launched first from the Baikonur centre 71 hours before the Apollo blasts off. And the American part of the programme will inevitably depend on the success of the Soyuz launch.

For 45 hours the United States crew will be chasing their Russian colleagues round the world until they rendezvous. To accomplish this, rapid analysis of the exact orbit of Soyuz must be made

during the first two hours of the Russian flight. Only then can the final calculations be made for launching the Saturn rocket carrying the Apollo crew.

On the existing timetable the cosmonauts leave Baikonur at 12.20 pm GMT to glide into orbit at 12.24 pm. The crew are Colonel Alexei Leonov, aged 41, and his flight engineer, Mr. Valeri Kubysov, 40.

Waiting to be launched at 7.50 pm GMT (3.50 pm at Cape Kennedy) will be Brigadier General Thomas Stafford, aged 44, Mr. Vance Brand, 44, and Mr. Donald Slayton, 51. All were test pilots before joining the corps of astronauts.

It should be on Thursday, at 4.15 pm GMT, that the two craft link, and show whether very different space vehicles can be joined together to enable the crews to move from one to the other.

In preparing for this event, teams of astronauts, engineers and scientists have travelled between the two countries on exchange projects for more than two years. Because of differences in the electronic communication systems used by the Russians and the Americans, special arrangements have been made to join the telecommuni-

cations networks needed for space tracking. An equal effort has been necessary in removing the language barrier between the two groups of astronauts and technicians.

Russian interpreters at the United States control centre in Houston, Texas, will relay messages to Moscow and English interpreters in the Soviet Union will do the reverse.

The cosmonauts will speak in English to the astronauts, and the Americans have been learning Russian to converse with their new colleagues.

The fate of the experiment hangs on the docking tunnel, a metal cylinder 10 feet long and five feet in diameter, which forms an airlock between the two vehicles. This segment is necessary for the transfer of crews because the Soyuz and Apollo craft have different atmospheres. The Russians use an oxygen-nitrogen mixture similar to normal air, while the Americans have pure oxygen at a pressure of five pounds per square inch.

These atmospheres could produce dangerous conditions if allowed to mix suddenly. And the crews must take time to adjust their bodies in moving from one set of conditions to the other.

Foreign diplomats puzzled by contradictory action over Basque 'state of exception'

Riot squad of 900 arrives in Bilbao

From Robert Fisk
Bilbao, July 13

General Franco's Government now has an estimated 16,000 plainclothes and uniformed policemen—thought to be nearly a quarter of the country's entire regular police force—in the four Spanish Basque provinces to handle the threat posed to the regime by the ETA separatist movement. Neither Basque lawyers nor foreign diplomats in Bilbao can understand why so many men should be mustered in Bilbao when the Government's "state of exception" is expected to be lifted later this month.

They are even more at a loss to explain the sudden, unannounced arrival in Bilbao of a specially trained riot squad of 900, which has just been placed under the command of the city's security police. The men, who have not yet been employed on the streets, possess: American-style riot visors, plastic face masks, gas masks, tear gas dispensers, crash helmets, small riot shields, revolvers and sub-machine guns.

No details of the unit or its deployment have been officially released, and the local press is forbidden to report on such matters, but the squad has now been placed in three sections and barracks in strategic parts of the city—in the central fire station, next to the Calle Buenos Aires; in the Plaza Cantabria; in the east and a quarter of a mile from Bilbao's main railway station; and in the Cuartel de Gacilano, to the west and near the city's football stadium.

The security police and the Guardia Civil have been extremely active in the towns and villages of the provinces over the past month. Prisoners released from jail today said that there were now 121 men being held without trial for "political offences" in the large prison at Basauri, near Bilbao.

Surveillance by the Guardia Civil has increased dramatically. They are still making allegations of torture. A young Basque told me today that he had been kept awake and kicked and punched continuously for three days during a recent 16-day interrogation at Bilbao police headquarters.

The widely-held suspicion that the so-called Knights of Christ the King, which have carried out a series of retaliatory bombings against Basques on both sides of the border with France, are in fact policemen. This theory is reinforced by the fact that not one member of the organization has ever been arrested. The only man to take note of a car used by the organization found on in-

quiry that the vehicle belonged to the Government. His lawyer last week showed me the document sent by way of reply from the Transport Ministry in Madrid stating that the car's registration number BI 7507 H—was in the possession of the security police.

Perhaps some of the odium which has attached to the police might have disappeared if the authorities had made an attempt to identify with the population; but they have not. At a village folk-singing session yesterday in the mountains south of San Sebastian, derogatory references to the police were greeted with roars of delight.

No one—probably not even the police themselves—have a true idea of the number of informers employed by the Interior Ministry. Lawyers say there are as many as 5,000 in Bilbao alone—the city's population is about 500,000—and that they include members of the professions, businessmen, workers, students, and particularly hotel staff. Indeed, one foreign consulate in the city has now advised its visiting diplomats not to stay at one of the largest and best known hotels in the city because the concierge is suspected of being a police agent.

The Basque separatist movement (ETA) is certainly worried about the system of informers that the police have built up. Prisoners who have recently been interrogated have been astonished at the amount of personal knowledge possessed about them, their movements and their friends. They suspect, although without having any substantial proof, that the Spanish Army's intelligence section may have been assisting the security police, especially since a visit to Bilbao a month ago from Burgos of the commander of the Army sixth region, who promised the security forces in northern Spain the Army's support.

among holidaymakers of all income groups, found almost complete unanimity that even if inflation is cutting standards of living holidays are not going to be sacrificed. It commented that the statutory one month's holiday was evidently an essential safety valve to overcome the effects of difficulties and problems experienced during the rest of the year.

Yesterday's record traffic jams upheld the view that what may happen to oil prices later in the year, the average French family is content that

for the present petrol prices have stopped rising. M. Michel D'Ornano, the Minister of Industry last week said the energy economy target has been realized. In fact, this is due to a 25 per cent drop in fuel consumption thanks to the warm summer.

Perhaps it is indicative of the relaxed mood that tomorrow's military parade in Paris will see the return of some 400 motorized vehicles. These were excluded from last year's parade by President Giscard d'Estaing to help save petrol.

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Portuguese Catholics call mass rally

Lisbon, July 13.—Portugal's military rulers called on the people today not to be alarmed by a plan to set up a workers' and soldiers' state as troops stood by for trouble.

In a radio broadcast, officers of the Armed Forces movement's propaganda section said some political parties were fiercely resisting the plan because it would introduce direct democracy.

The Army went on a state of limited alert yesterday after the Socialist, Portugal's biggest party, walked out of the provisional Government. Raul Castro, a Socialist member of the Government, said the withdrawal of the Socialist members of the Government was followed by a meeting between President Costa Gomes and leaders of the Popular Democratic party. The party, Portugal's second in electoral strength, is understood to have asked, among other things, for a guarantee of freedom of the press, urgent measures to overcome the serious economic crisis, election of local administrative bodies and the solution of the present "crisis of authority".

The President has until Wednesday to meet these demands. Until then the party will not take any steps to "leave the Government".

Dr. Emidio Guerreiro, the party leader, said afterwards that his party considered the present crisis an "extremely serious one. We have reached rupture point", he said.

The country was pursuing a democratic course, but there were forces opposed to this and who were trying to bring "an undemocratic experiment to Portugal".

He and his delegation had told the President, he said, that the recent document approved by the Assembly of the Republic, the Movement, which traced the bases of a popular people's government in the future, imperilled the existence of political parties.

The Popular Democrats would never be a party of opposition to the revolution, but we want a human revolution. The left was seeking a confrontation.

anger the affair has provoked in official circles has been emphasized. Beirut radio and television interrupted normal programmes with a communique from the Army Command announcing the release, but preceded it with revelations of activities of a radical terrorist group.

This group, which calls itself the Arab Communist Organization and bases its operations on the example of the Tupamaro urban guerrillas in Uruguay, was responsible for a string of kidnappings, bank robberies and terrorist strikes in Lebanon since Syria seized the country two years ago. Although there was no announced evidence to connect the organization with Colonel Morgan's kidnapping, the decision to link publicly the two incidents carried a clear message.

The Colonel's kidnapper, called themselves the Revolutionary Socialist Action Group but the Palestine guerrilla leadership announced that they were members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. These groups are radical "split" bodies which form part of the so-called "Resistance" front inside the Palestine movement.

Beirut, July 13.—Colonel Ernest Morgan, aged 43, an air defence expert with Cento (Central Treaty Organization), who was seized by armed men at the height of the Beirut street fighting on June 29, presented the authorities with their most embarrassing dilemma for some time. Before he was released, his captors held him in ransom, saying his life depended on the Americans fulfilling a set of demands.

It even caused a crisis within the Palestine guerrilla movement, with the mainstream blaming two radical break-away groups for jeopardizing the "Palestine struggle". Colonel Morgan was eventually freed yesterday, three hours before the deadline on his life expired. His release came after the intervention of the Lebanese authorities and the guerrilla leadership.

Although the safe delivery of Colonel Morgan was greeted with relief by the new government of Mr. Rashid Karami, the

Phantom pilot 'captured in bombing raid'

Beirut, July 13.—A Palestinian guerrilla organization announced today that an Israeli pilot was captured and another was being sought after their Phantom fighter-bomber was shot down during an attack on the Ain al Helwa refugee camp near Sidon.

A spokesman for the Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine said a second Israeli aircraft was also shot down.

Various reports placed the number of Palestinians killed in the raid at between two and five, with up to 35 wounded.

A Reuters correspondent saw a parachute—apparently of Israeli origin—lying on the outskirts of Maghdousheh village, outside Sidon. Lebanese troops and Palestinian military policemen were searching for the man.

Our Tel Aviv Correspondent writes: The military headquarters in Tel Aviv has denied that any aircraft were lost during the raid. The headquarters said the fate of the mission was a working matter in Sidon which manufactured arms.

The Syrian move comes as Damascus is under heavy attack from the new Baathist party in Iraq, and observers saw the harsh terms of the Syrian draft as being partly intended to silence any criticism of the country's determination to combat Israel.

The Ministers and their representatives met today to date a report on the past year's activities delivered last night by Mr. Hassan Al-Tuhamy, the Secretary-General of the conference.—Reuters.

"We want to avoid this confrontation", he added. General Vasco Gonçalves, the Prime Minister, who cancelled his weekend visit to Sao Tome island, off the African coast, to hand over independence to the former Portuguese colony, has been holding consultations with a view to filling the posts left vacant by the retiring Socialist members of the Government.

A group calling itself the Committee of Christians had called for a rally to welcome home to the northern city of Aveiro. The bishop of the diocese, Mgr. Manuel Grelho, who is president of the Portuguese episcopate and has been on a visit to Rome.

Among those attacking it are the Communist Party which has issued a statement condemning it as reactionary, and the fascist (Federation of Trade Unions), which has called for blocking of roads to the city and asked all professional transport workers to refuse to take demonstrators there.

In view of the increase in the country's troops are posted on the alert, but so far the situation is calm as thousands of families from Lisbon flock to the nearby beaches.

Livorno, July 12.—Signor Enrico Berlinguer, secretary of the Italian Communist Party, has again criticized the Portuguese Communist Party, saying that it was curtailing liberty and democracy.

In a speech at the end of talks with Spanish communist leaders here last night, Signor Berlinguer said his party had several times expressed its disagreement with the position and actions of the Portuguese communists and the leaders of the Armed Forces Movement.

Differences between the two parties had been accentuated by recent events in Portugal, which, he said, had limited freedom. Developments there had reduced the participation of all sections of the population whose cooperation is the guarantee of a renewal of Portuguese society and its defence against any form of reactionary revival.—Reuters.

Beirut clamp on terrorists after release of colonel

From Paul Martin
Beirut, July 13

The authorities intend to follow their success in securing the release of the American Army colonel held hostage for the past two weeks by cracking down on terrorist groups operating in the country.

These protesting groups, often associated with the radical elements of the Palestine guerrilla movement but outside its control, have caused growing concern here.

The kidnapping of Colonel Ernest Morgan, aged 43, an air defence expert with Cento (Central Treaty Organization), who was seized by armed men at the height of the Beirut street fighting on June 29, presented the authorities with their most embarrassing dilemma for some time. Before he was released, his captors held him in ransom, saying his life depended on the Americans fulfilling a set of demands.

It even caused a crisis within the Palestine guerrilla movement, with the mainstream blaming two radical break-away groups for jeopardizing the "Palestine struggle". Colonel Morgan was eventually freed yesterday, three hours before the deadline on his life expired. His release came after the intervention of the Lebanese authorities and the guerrilla leadership.

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OVERSEAS

Turkish leaders decide to revise pact with US on bases because of 'crisis of confidence'

MARSA MATRUH, July 13.—The United States and Turkey have agreed to revise the 1958 defense cooperation pact between the two countries because of a "crisis of confidence" in the Turkish leadership, according to a statement issued by the Turkish Ministry of Defense today.

The statement, which was made in Ankara, said that the Turkish government had decided to revise the pact because of a "crisis of confidence" in the Turkish leadership. It said that the Turkish government had decided to revise the pact because of a "crisis of confidence" in the Turkish leadership.

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Army and police majority in Uganda Cabinet

Our Correspondent, Kampala, July 13.—An appointment of five new members by President Amin, which gave the Uganda Cabinet a majority of army and police officers, has been in effect since the cabinet was formed last September.

The new members are: Major General Mustafa Aden, Minister of Defense; Major General Yusuf Lule, Minister of Home Affairs; Major General Yusuf Lule, Minister of Home Affairs; Major General Yusuf Lule, Minister of Home Affairs; Major General Yusuf Lule, Minister of Home Affairs.

brief

Ethiopian rulers in party

ADDIS ABABA, July 13.—Ethiopian rulers today announced the formation of a new party "guided by the principles of Ethiopian socialism" to replace the administration of Emperor Haile Selassie.

clergy protest

ATHENS, July 13.—The Greek clergy today protested against the formation of a new party "guided by the principles of Ethiopian socialism" to replace the administration of Emperor Haile Selassie.

base survey

CAIRO, July 13.—A team of experts recently visited the Egyptian port of Sidi Barrani to survey the area for a new base.

Benny's \$5m

LOS ANGELES, July 13.—Jack Benny, who based his career on impersonating a miser, left \$5,552,000 when he died last year at the age of 80.

France links

PARIS, July 13.—Diplomatic relations between Guinea and France were broken in 1965, but are now being restored.

en shaikhs killed

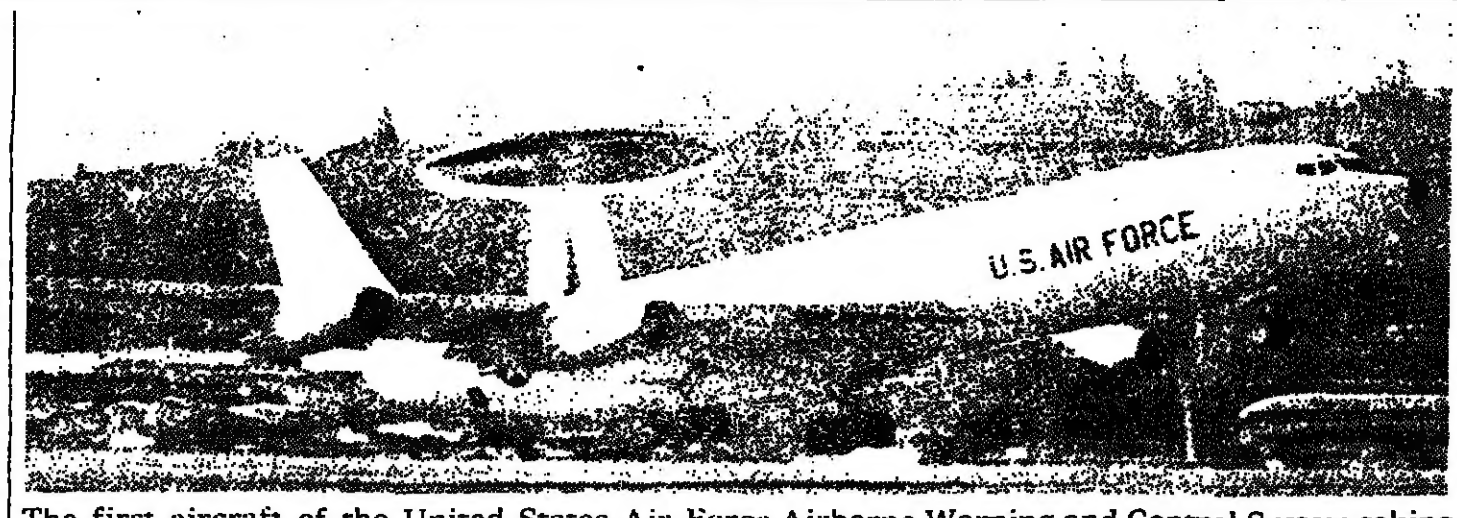
YEMEN, July 13.—Four en shaikhs were reported to have been killed in the power struggle between traditionalists and the new authorities.

force on alert

UNITED STATES, July 13.—The United States Air Force is on alert because of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus.

ner envoy dies

NEW YORK, July 13.—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. died in London in 1967, but his death was not reported until 1968.



The first aircraft of the United States Air Force Airborne Warning and Control System taking off on its maiden flight at Seattle, Washington State. It is a modified Boeing 707 fitted with a "radome" which can detect and track airborne targets at long range and at any altitude.

Oil firm paid \$46m to political parties

NEW YORK, July 13.—The Exxon Corporation made contributions totaling at least \$46 million (about £21m) to Italian political parties over an eight-year period, a company spokesman said today.

The official of the multinational oil company said in an interview that between 1963 and 1971, Exxon authorized payments averaging \$3m a year to various Italian political parties.

Callaghan visit to Poland aims at closer relations

GDANSK, July 13.—Mr. Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, was sighted today in this Baltic port, today before beginning talks with Polish leaders, tomorrow on European security and other topics.

He flew to Warsaw this evening to meet party, state and government leaders during his three-day official visit which is intended by Poland to provide an important stimulus to Polish-British cooperation.

Peace returns to people in Mekong Delta

FROM NAYAN CHAND, MY THO, SOUTH VIETNAM, JULY 13

The peasants are planting rice again in the paddy fields beside Highway 4 leading south from Saigon into the Mekong Delta. After the noise and destruction of the war, the countryside is strangely peaceful.

The wreck of an armoured troop carrier lies rusting in a field, one of the few reminders of the war. Military outposts and bases that dotted the Mekong route have been razed and turned into vegetable gardens.

Hostile reception for new Peron Cabinet

From Jane Monahan, Buenos Aires, July 13

In spite of the resignation of Senator Jose Lopez Rega as presidential private secretary and Social Welfare Minister, the general reaction in Argentina to President Isabel Peron's Cabinet changes on Friday, which she called the head of popular political and economic policies.

Senator Lopez Rega, for example, may have withdrawn formally from Argentina's public life but it is suspected that his influence will continue to be decisive.

Abuse meets US move to reunite with Britain

From Nicholas Fraser, New York, July 13

The nascent spirit of rebellion in the old colonies, recently brought to light by the creation of the Committee for Reunion with England, has met a mixed response, according to its chairman.

Mr. John Ambrose, aged 24, an advertising copywriter and graduate of the "Ivy League" University of Pennsylvania, says that his appeal has produced 100 letters, ranging in tone from "enthusiastic approval to downright hostility."

Independent likely to hold balance in S Australia poll

From Our Correspondent, Adelaide, July 13

Anti-Labour forces failed to win control of South Australia in yesterday's state election, much to the relief of the beleaguered Whitlam Government. The loss of South Australia, one of only two Labour-controlled states in Australia, would have been another setback in the already demoralized Labour movement.

Mrs Gandhi appoints new lawyer

Continued from page 1

Office managers say the attendance rate has been so high since the Government threatened slack civil servants with disciplinary action last week that there are not enough chairs and desks in many offices to accommodate the workers who are crowding into government buildings before office hours.

TWA.

FIRST OF THE DAY

TO THE USA.

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747 departs 12.00, arrives 14.35.
707 departs 17.00, arrives 19.55.
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BOSTON:
747 departs 11.15, arrives 13.20.
Continues on as an L1011 to Los Angeles (arr. 18.37).

PHILADELPHIA:
707 departs 11.30, arrives 14.35.
The only non-stop flight of the day. Same plane continues on to Pittsburgh (arr. 17.21).

CHICAGO:
747 departs 12.30, arrives 15.00.
Same plane continues on to San Francisco (arr. 19.58).

LOS ANGELES:
747 departs 13.15, arrives 16.20.
The first non-stop flight of the day. Continues on as an L1011 to San Francisco (arr. 18.56).
Call your travel agent or TWA.

Secretarial and General Appointments

on page 21

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[illegible]

Lord Chalfont

The benefits of taking the quiet road to peace in the Middle East

Those who assumed that an agreement in the Middle East was complete except for a formal announcement, seem to have forgotten that the Prime Minister of Israel is not only a politician. He is a soldier as well, and he is not disposed to make concessions which affect the military security of Israel without some very substantial guarantees in return.

Mr Rabin is the man who commanded the Har El Brigade on the road to Jerusalem in 1948. As Chief of Staff of the Israel armed forces, he planned the brilliantly successful desert campaign of 1967; and his comment on the near-disaster of October 1973, when President Sadat's meticulously planned assault across the Suez Canal took Israel almost completely by surprise, was characteristic—it was not, he said, a defect of military intelligence, but a failure on the part of politicians to understand what the intelligence meant.

That is not a mistake he intends to make himself, if only because he knows that no government could allow Israel to be taken off guard again and survive. He has massive support in his country for taking as hard a line as he wants to take in his negotiations with the Egyptians, and whatever concessions either side makes will be made only under constant prodding from the Americans.

It is in this context that the interim plan now being canvassed in the capitals of Europe,

the Middle East and North America must be considered. The essence of it, stated in its simplest form, is that Israel should withdraw from the Abu Rudeis offshoot on the Gulf of Suez and from the Mitla and Gidi passes, two militarily important geographical features in the Sinai desert some 30 miles east of the Suez Canal. In exchange, the Egyptians would guarantee a period of peace for at least three years. Around this basic formula, a number of other possible negotiating points have emerged. The Israelis, for example, are prepared, if they withdraw from the offshoots, to concede also a communications corridor, under United Nations supervision, between Abu Rudeis and the present Egyptian enclave east of Suez. If they withdraw from the passes they are prepared to contemplate a United Nations presence in the area, but not that of Egyptian troops. Another possibility, not received with wild enthusiasm in Washington, is that the Americans should man the early warning radar station which Israel has established in the passes, to maintain a guard against the possibility of surprise attack—presumably from either side.

It is important to recognize at the outset that the Mitla and Gidi passes, whatever may be said by those anxious for an early settlement, are of considerable military significance to both sides. In this context of

modern warfare, involving large armoured and mechanized forces, they command the only negotiable military axis between Israel and the Suez Canal. The northern route through El Arish on the Mediterranean coast, and the southern approaches through the mountainous terrain of El Tilt and El Igna are virtually impassable to tanks and armoured troop carriers. With the experience of the Yom Kippur War still appallingly fresh in their minds, the Israelis are likely to make some very hard-headed military calculations.

Of course, it is possible to construct effective lines of defence east of the Mitla and Gidi passes, but at substantially greater cost in manpower and equipment. An attack which could be held up for some time by a battalion in either of the passes would require a brigade or more to ensure a successful delaying action farther to the east. The Israel view is therefore that any agreement involving withdrawal from the passes must include effective arrangements allowing them access in the event of a crisis.

The problems facing Mr Rabin, however, are not simply those of topography and the disposition of army units—they are of a much more profound political, and indeed psychological, nature. There remains in Israel a deep distrust of Egyptian motives. Although it seems clear to the objective observer that a period of peace

is as important to President Sadat as it is to Israel, Mr Rabin is not fully convinced of the degree of Egyptian political engagement in the pursuit of a lasting settlement. Israel officials point to Egypt's attempts to replace its obsolete Russian equipment with modern weapons from Western Europe; and their suspicions tend to be reinforced by the output of Cairo Radio which, reporting the recent PLO bomb attack in Jerusalem, commented that this should remind the Israelis that the fight is not over.

In this kind of climate, the most solemn Egyptian guarantees, however sincerely offered, are unlikely to carry enough conviction in Jerusalem to allow the Israel Prime Minister to make what is regarded there as a great and possibly irreversible national decision. There is a great gap of credibility and confidence which can be filled only by the United States.

The American interest in a Middle East peace settlement is at least as powerful as that of the rest of the world; and if the Israelis are to give way, it is the Americans, not the Egyptians, who will have to provide the effective guarantees. They will, for example, have to convince Mr Rabin that there will be assured supplies of oil to replace those which now come from Abu Rudeis; and that withdrawal from the passes will be compensated for

by an unbroken supply of modern military equipment and technology.

This may outrage those who believe that much of the continuing crisis in the Middle East is brought about by the arms race, to which the great powers cynically contribute while mankind suffers the consequences of good-will. It is, however, a cold fact of political life. Until peace negotiations have progressed very much farther, military strength will continue to be a principal preoccupation of the Arabs and the Israelis; and there will be no further progress if one side or the other feels militarily vulnerable.

It is, of course, not only Mr Rabin who has his problems. However much President Sadat may want peace, he is under heavy pressure from Syria not to give guarantees that he will not renew hostilities unless there is also a timetable for negotiations on the other fronts. To the Israelis, however, withdrawal from the Golan Heights would present tactical and strategic problems even more serious than those involved in withdrawal from the Sinai passes.

The Americans are under pressures of a different kind. The Russians, whose endorsement, however tacit, of any interim settlement in the Middle East is essential, want a summit conference in Helsinki before the end of this month to ratify—or perhaps to sanctify

the outcome of the Conference on European Security and Co-operation. It seems that they were given the assurance they wanted when Dr Kissinger met Mr Gromyko in Geneva last week. The American Secretary of State can now reflect upon the irony of a situation in which the Russian acquisition of territory by force in 1944 and 1945, in exchange for Soviet acquiescence in a plan which involves impressing upon Israel the inadmissibility of such behaviour.

That the negotiations for an interim settlement have progressed so far in the face of all these pressures and conflicting interests says something for the patience and skill of the negotiators. It also underlines the superiority of meticulously prepared secret negotiations over the more dramatic forms of jettisoned diplomacy. The last round of negotiations came to an end abruptly when Dr Kissinger was suddenly faced with another crisis in the Far East. Another failure might have the gravest consequences, and a little more time spent over the details of an agreement will be a small price to pay for a modest but vital success in the Middle East before the dead hand of the Presidential elections descends upon American diplomacy.

The author, Deputy Chairman Lazard Brothers & Co. Ltd, was a member of the de Gaulle Export Committee which recently visited the Republic of Korea.

It is hard to imagine any two countries remoter, in so many senses, from each other than Britain and the Republic of Korea. South Korea is to most British a sort of northern hemisphere antipodes, located somewhere between Vladivostok and Peking; neither Japanese nor Chinese and certainly not a part of the communist bloc. In 1945, Northern aggression in 1951, and standing possibly once again in the communist firing line.

Only one of our delegations of "The Invisibles" had visited Seoul before, but we have been briefed for the briefing can be no substitute for personal experience and, although I was myself in a previous incarnation, a reporter, I can recollect no case when the one was so startlingly reinforced by the other.

Participation gave South Korea half the land, Seoul, three-fifths of the population, most of the agriculture and almost none of the industry, a situation not unlike that of Ireland—though the population is 10 times as great. From these slender beginnings the South Koreans have pulled themselves in the past 10 years up to a situation where they are becoming a significant industrial force in the western Pacific.

Japan is the most-quoted example of a nation that pulled itself up by its bootstraps. A feudal state in 1860, a minor power capable of defeating Russia in 1905, an unsuccessful challenger to the United States in 1941, it is today a successful industrial nation today. On present form South Korea looks well set to compress the Japanese achievement into a third of that time. Only the threat from the North and the danger of over-extension at home seem capable of arresting this.

Since the American departure from Indochina, the Koreans of the South are all too aware of President Kim Il Sung's pilgrimages to Peking, North Africa and Eastern Europe. No one is sure whether he is seeking support for his failing economy, but it is certain that the North is rattling sabres, and the frontier is only 35 miles from Seoul. The Seoul newspapers make much play of the rumours of a North Korean invasion, and the discovery which has been made under the mine-strewn Demilitarized Zone in a southerly direction. Apparently the work was done with Swedish rock-drills imported to assist development of the North Korean mines. The Koreans are today a tourist attraction for visitors to Seoul.

The Southern President, Park Chung Hee, is no Hamlet. He has outgrown students with his censorship laws and foreign missionaries with the execution of infiltration attempts. However, it is that synthetic about the general Southern deterioration of communism and all its works. Unlike the South Vietnamese, the South Koreans have experienced a communist invasion once, it is an experience that they do not want to repeat.

In the context of Korean politics President Park is l'homme du 18 juin.

In an assessment of the chances of a second invasion the attitude of America is critical. There are some 42,000 American military personnel in Korea today and all the recent assurances by members of the Washington administration of the determination to keep them there have been carefully noted. Any weakening of this American resolve, at Saigon, is likely to lead to rearmament by the Japanese so as to fill the vacuum, an alternative unlikely to appeal in America.

There is little evidence yet of any diminution of foreign business confidence in South Korea on account of these noises off. This would indeed be critical to the development of the country, which has so far been heavily reliant on capital investment from Japan, America and Western Europe. More than almost any other developing country, South Korea has understood how to attract foreign industrial capi-

tal on terms both huggy productive and politically satisfying.

Following the Japanese pattern, a nascent industry has entered into a consociation with government on a programme of development covering a select group of targets—textiles, steel, plywood, electronic components, textiles and petrochemicals. The usual instrument is the "joint venture" company in which a select group of foreign firms joins forces with Korean interests, public or private, to get the venture started. The foreign partner contributes part of the capital, a great deal of know-how and the export marketing and the Korean provides the labour, the junior management and the rest of the capital. It is the Korean contribution that is so striking.

The first impression of the foreign visitor to Seoul is the work on building sites, which goes on 24 hours a day, seven days in the week in the selected for industrial development, mainly in the dry south, the picture is no less impressive. Korean actually work at a pace which is big as the Billingham complex is being prepared for a petrochemical development at an astonishing rate. An English engineer working on a chemical plant there has estimated the productivity of the Koreans doing the complicated pipework was between 21 and 25 times that of pipe-welders in Tennessee, and the quality was superior. At the Hyundai shipyard, now the most efficient in the world, the first ship was launched 30 months after the first sod was put for the first day of the year.

Not far away the same pace is starting. Korea's first manufacturing plant, an enterprising work in the construction of a ship, is being prepared for a petrochemical development at an astonishing rate. An English engineer working on a chemical plant there has estimated the productivity of the Koreans doing the complicated pipework was between 21 and 25 times that of pipe-welders in Tennessee, and the quality was superior. At the Hyundai shipyard, now the most efficient in the world, the first ship was launched 30 months after the first sod was put for the first day of the year.

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Why we must find more money for the Navy's survey ships

A report due to be considered by Cabinet ministers later this month will recommend an expansion of the Royal Navy's Hydrographic Service and radical changes in the method by which it is financed. It reflects growing public concern about the future of the service, the oldest branch of the Admiralty which for the past 180 years has charted the oceans in the interests of all who sail on them. The concern has been there for some time, but it has grown in recent months because of ever increasing interest in Britain's offshore oil industry and because of the cutback in defence spending announced as a result of the Government's defence review.

The Hydrographic Service consists partly of a surveying fleet with 750 naval personnel and 13 ships, and partly of a number of shore establishments including the department at Taunton where 800 staff, mainly civilian, operate 3,500 Admiralty charts that span the globe. The service provided is generally acknowledged to be the best of its kind in the world.

The basic difficulty is that the department, because it is run by the Royal Navy without any independent share of Government revenue, has to deflect the diminishing size and scope of the Navy and the general squeeze on defence spending. On the other hand, the jobs it is being called upon to perform, particularly for civil departments, are growing in number and importance. Far

from contracting, the present spending by the department of an annual £6.5m to £7m needs to be doubled over the next 10 years if it is to accomplish all its tasks.

During the past 12 months surveys off the Hebrides and East Anglia have revealed dangerous shoals which could well have proved disastrous, the former to oil production platforms in apparently deep water and the latter to shipping in a recommended seaway. Surveys, too, in the English Channel disclosed an astonishing number of 95 uncharted wrecks, many dating from the last war—indicating the urgent need for continued routine surveys of Britain's home waters, let alone the trade routes elsewhere. But the department complains that it is struggling to maintain even these services on the existing budget.

There have been repeated requests for more resources. In its report for 1973, the Hydrographer of the Navy, the rear-admiral who leads the service, complained: "The basic trouble of the world's seas remains unsurveyed. The maps of the seabed hardly exist. Approaches to some of our emerging ports are virtually uncharted. We are not meeting the needs of the merchant fleet, the fishermen. We are not providing adequately for future navigational techniques."

Shortage of resources has been more recently highlighted by a five-year programme



The ice patrol ship HMS Endurance, which does hydrographic work in the Antarctic.

started in April, 1974, to compile geophysical maps of Britain's continental shelf, resulting in an overall picture of the country's undersea mineral resources. But other more pressing needs, like the provision of a safe route for container production platforms with their draught of up to 40 fathoms, from construction sites to the offshore oilfields, have forced a reappraisal of the original programme. The inability of the Department of

Energy to find additional resources with which to fund the mapping has in fact caused part of the programme to be stopped—for the time being anyway.

It was in the light of all these developments that the Hydrographic Study Group was established last year, consisting of representatives from all interested Whitehall ministries and other organizations, to examine the best ways of funding the service in future. Four-

teen recommendations will come before a Cabinet committee on July 23, four of which are crucial to the health of the hydrographic department.

One is that money should be found if possible to keep in being two ocean-going survey ships and one inshore survey craft which were considered surplus to the Navy's requirements in the Defence Review. They are, the study group points out, still essential for civil work. Another urges an

expansion of the department at Taunton, financed by increased sales revenue (in fact, the Navy is reluctant to raise the price of Admiralty Charts, now selling for only £2 or £2.50 apiece, because it fears this would inhibit people from keeping their charts up to date).

A third recommendation is to increase the number of survey ships from 13 to 20. This total would include, by 1981, four ocean vessels as at present, eight of the excellent coastal survey vessels which perform the all-important work along the continental shelf, instead of the present four, and eight new inshore craft instead of the five obsolescent boats now in service. But the most important recommendation is in long range, perhaps, the fourth which urges the Government to consider voting money for the hydrographic service independently of the defence budget—thus freeing it from the pressure on defence spending.

The timing of the study group's report is unfortunate because the Government is hardly in a mood to increase public spending. But its relevance to Britain's shipping interests and particularly her access to cheap energy, together with the international reputation of the service as one of Britain's "invisible" exports, persuade the department that its cry for help can hardly be ignored.

Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

Leading the way to an old people's liberation movement

Life has never been easy for the great majority of old people in the United States. In a new book, entitled *Why Survive being old in America*, Dr Robert Butler describes just how bad it can often be, and makes a strong plea for a new attitude towards old age by American society as a whole.

"For many elderly Americans," he writes, "old age is a tragedy, a period of quiet despair, deprivation, desolation and muted rage. This can be a consequence of the kind of life a person has led in younger years. But old age is frequently a tragedy even when the early years have been fulfilling and people seemingly have everything going for them."

"Herein lies what I consider to be the genuine tragedy of old age in America—we have

shaped a society which is extremely harsh to live in when one is old."

Dr Butler is a gerontologist, who was drawn to the subject, he says, by affection for his grandparents, who brought him up. In his book he writes with approval of the more political approach now being taken by old people in the United States, and outlines "agenda for activism" which ranges all the way from political activity to such actions as squatting in abandoned buildings and sit-ins.

The basic trouble, he writes, is that popular attitudes towards old age are "a combination of wishful thinking and stark terror". On the one hand is the romantic notion of the golden years, a carefree period, the twilight of a person's life. On the other is the idea that old people are decrepit and senile.

He is particularly outspoken about prejudice against the elderly, which he describes as ageism. Ageism, he says, "can be seen as a process of systematic stereotyping of and discrimination against people because they are old, just as racism and sexism accomplish this with skin colour and gender. Old people are categorized as senile, rigid in thought and manner, old-fashioned in morality and skills. Ageism allows the younger generations to see older people as different from themselves; thus they subtly cease to identify with their elders as human beings."

The outcome of these attitudes is that many old people live in poverty, that though they may not have been poor in their earlier life, they are unable to get jobs, even though they might like them

and be qualified to do them. They are crippled by medical costs, and find that even local authorities are reluctant to treat them, because they prefer younger cases with a better chance of a cure. Many nursing homes are a scandal.

Dr Butler's view is that the "potentials for satisfactions and even triumphs in late life are real and vastly underexplored", if only the elderly did not have to live in an inhospitable world. He suggests that old people should use all available means to try to change people's attitudes, as well as the attitude of government officials.

There should, he writes, be three main objectives: a change in "cultural" sensibility towards the needs of old people; the allocation of greater part of the country's resources to assistance for them; and the creation of

better political representation, as well as activist possibilities. In fact, Dr Butler points out, old people in the United States are already becoming "more aware of their fate and more sophisticated about political action". They have learnt from the protest movements of black people and women. They are healthier and better educated than they used to be. Above all, they are growing as a proportion of the population and will become "an even more vital and powerful potential in American political life."

There is, of course, resistance from younger people, who are likely to see their way ahead as being blocked, or who resent having to pay higher taxes to support old people better. But Dr Butler counters this with the argument that most people will be old themselves one day and should think of the future.

Peter Strafford

The Times Diary

Book list for your crisis holiday

As is his custom at this time of year, P. H. Simplicissimus, my literary critic, presents his list of books recommended for reading on the beach during the summer holidays.

Harold Wilson, a True Hero of Our Time, edited by Sam Silk. Here at last is the long-awaited authorized version of the Crossman diaries, edited by the Attorney-General without assistance and with no political motive. It shows Wilson as a skilled politician and statesman, totally responsible for all the successes of his first administration and wholly blameless for the few inevitable failures. Detailed descriptions of Cabinet meetings show them to be entirely harmonious occasions, where all decisions are arrived at unanimously and with no hint of rancour, ending with community hymn singing. Wilson is also shown to be personally responsible for England's victory in the World Cup

in 1966, as well as having the uncanny ability to bend spoons at distances of up to 100 yards. (HMSO, £28.50.)

The Labour Party Manifesto, 1974. This historic document is now available cheap, because several key pages have been cut out. (Transport House, 5p.)

Renegotiation, by James Callaghan. A novel of suspense set in London, Brussels and Luxembourg, in which you are the jury. Loyalties switch constantly, the plot is a tightrope, who is bluffing whom? There is a surprise happy ending, set in Earls Court. (Heinemann, £12.50.)

Torrid, by Desmond Lynam. The BBC's boxing correspondent reports on weather conditions at the fight between Mohammed Ali and Joe Bugner in Malaysia. "The heat leaps out at you from every page.

Makes you sweat just to pick it up."—*Meteorological News*. (BBC Publications, £16.)

It is a Pity... edited by Charles Curran. An edited collection of the many hundreds of letters written to *The Times* and BBC executives with time on their hands, in response to criticism. Required reading for students of pique and self-justification. (BBC Publications, £17.50.)

The London Transport Bus Timetables. This anonymous work of fiction might be hard to acquire on days when the West Indies are playing at the Oval. (London Transport, 5s.)

Teeth, by Edward Heath. Thoughts on an incomes policy. (Macmillan, £26.)

Opposition, by Margaret Thatcher. This important philosophical work by the Leader of the Conservative Party is about her relationship with her predecessor. (See above). (Conservative Central Office, £16.50.)

Puns

Lecture to the Editor, edited by Michael Leapman. A collection of correspondence from readers to *The Times* on horticultural matters. Packed with conflicting advice. (Hamish Hamilton, £7.50.)

The Guardian Bedside Book of Puns, edited by Peter Preston. A collection of headlines from Britain's only comic daily newspaper. Not for the squeamish, but for the punner. (BBC Publications, Scotland, £13.)

Carry on Up the Beef Mountain—the book of the film. Your favourite comedy team go to Brussels. A record 74 jokes about the notorious urinating fountain, and 23 about spurs. (W. H. Allen, 9s.)

Supersell, by Shirley Conran. About a woman who writes a book of household hints (like how to get stains out of sinks) and then gets a catch title and getting interviewed on all the best radio and television programmes, manages to promote it as some kind of liberating breakthrough. (Sidgwick and Jackson, £32.)

Peering into the Mirror, by Baron Cudlipp. A tale of subtle subterfuge about the gifted young journalists who ran a newspaper which tilted at everything the Establishment stood for, and who sprinkled swear words about to boot. Nemesis comes when they are all banished to the House of Lords and made to dress up in women's clothes. (IPC Publications, £18.50.)

Sleep, by Reginald Maudling. The Shadow Foreign Secretary takes a searching look at the mysteries of sleep. Hints on how to avoid insomnia and gripping tales of sleep customs in foreign lands—notably Malta and Saudi Arabia. One for the bedside. (Horlicks Ltd, £16.50.)

Reds Under the Rose Bed, by Lord Chalfont and Roy Hay. An extraordinary real-life adventure in which Chalfont, the vigilant Right-wing peer and enthusiastic gardener, notices that his roses are wilting mysteriously. He calls in Hay, who tries numerous parent remedies and finally, when he is investigating the root structure, disappears into a deep hole. It emerges that militant left-wing miners are tunnelling to Chalfont's house to reveal the notes of his interviews with the Shah of Persia and other leaders, in an attempt to subvert the world. (Aims for Freedom and Enterprise and the Royal Horticultural Society, £39.)

Rules

No, No, You Don't First, Please, by Mike Denness. The autobiography of England's cricketer captain shows that being a good loser is a product both of breeding and of experience. (Pelham Books, £13.50.)

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gripping tale of intrigue, set in prehistoric Ruritania, which tells how wicked Red Fumanchu and his gang of Red Meanies stole the Crown Prince's magic chair, and how the King with his Enchanted Tuba. (Ladybird Book, 21p.)

Strasbourg on £35 a Day. A guide for new members of the European Parliament on how to make the most of their expenses allowance. Contains a list of useful phrases like: "What are those nasty black things in my paté de foie?" and "No, madam, it was the onion tart I asked for a price off." Recommends that, if the money last, delegates might spend a part of their time in the Parliament itself, listening to the debates. (Transport House, 45p.)

Teach Yourself Coal Mining, by Arthur Scargill. A priceless work for the difficult days ahead. (Teach Yourself Books, £42.)

The Wagner Omnibus. Stirring adventure story of how Bernard Levin drove his mother and a man from North Thames Gas to Bayreuth in a second-hand London Transport double-decker. (Boosey and Hawkes, £21.)

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Rape, by Viscount Haile Selassie. Everything you always wanted to know about the culture of this nourishing vegetable, were afraid to ask through fear of misunderstanding. (Amateur Gardener, £15.50.)

Moderation, by Reg Prentice. Gothic novel in which the hero solves the country's problem of holding no firm view on anything, but expressing the with extreme force. (Tim Publications Ltd, £18.)

Littlewoods Catalogue, 1973. Facsimile of this historic catalogue, a poignant reminder of the day when you could buy a freezer, a colour television, a set of French canoodles, a pair of bicycle clips and a postage stamp, and still have change from £500. (Hamlyn Reprint, £38.50.)

Britain has found the answer to the inflation caused by Government printing too much paper money. Skilled workers at the Bank of England working at Deben, Essex, are operating an unorthodox but successful national printing industry plan, and the Bank admits to the fact that the supply of money is too high for the national interest. (PHS, £15.50.)

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NO SAFETY THROUGH SUBSIDIES

One of the dangers with an incomes policy is that too many concessions may be made in the attempt to win acceptance for it. Its proper role should be a supporting one. An effective incomes policy should make it easier to apply monetary and fiscal restraint, but all too often they are relaxed as part of the deal to persuade sceptics to favour the incomes policy itself. That Mr Healey has been forced to make some concessions of this nature is hardly surprising. He had to face critics in the Cabinet and opponents in the TUC, and there is a beguiling simplicity in the argument that if an incomes policy is to be made to stick then people will have to feel assured that everything possible is being done to hold down the cost of living.

So it is easy to understand why the commitment was made to spend an extra £150m of public money in the next financial year on subsidizing food prices and council rents. In the light of the present budget deficit that may not seem much to worry about, but in both cases the decision reverses the trend of the Government's previous policy, it is contrary to what should be the main priority and in the case of housing in particular is open to more detailed objections.

Subsidies are a palliative, not a cure. They increase Government commitments at a time when the urgent need is to restrict public expenditure, and they contradict the belief of the more realistic members of the Cabinet including Mrs Williams and Mr Crosland, the two

Ministers directly concerned—that the public must be faced with the full reality of inflation. As recently as the beginning of May, Mr Crosland said that he expected next year's rent to rise by substantially more than the increase in the cost of living. Last month he told Parliament that subsidies were pre-empting funds which should be used for other programmes, such as the rehabilitation of older properties acquired from private landlords. Now we are told that an extra £80m will be provided to keep rent rises down to an estimated 60p a week.

The whole problem of housing finance is not one that lends itself to simplistic solutions. Indeed so far it has proved insoluble. The Housing Finance Act 1972, despite the furor it caused, was probably a step in the right direction, but it only required local authorities to balance their current housing accounts. It did not attempt to deal with the far greater problem of the ever-increasing costs of new building.

To suggest that tenants pay economic rents for new flats and houses would be unrealistic. That would place a quite disproportionate burden on a particular section of municipal tenants who are not necessarily best able to bear it. Some people see the answer in what is known, in local government jargon, as a system of pooled historic costs, whereby total rent revenue would be spread so as to cover both maintenance and repair costs on existing buildings, and interest charges and loan repayments on new develop-

ments. But that would drastically affect the overall rent level and require a massive extension of the present rebate arrangements, which are aimed primarily at cases of hardship.

Nevertheless, to continue with a policy of indiscriminate subsidies, allied with an unrestricted programme of new council house building, is to travel up a blind alley. It obviates any chance of Exchequer funds being diverted into rehabilitation and a more rational use of the existing housing stock. It reduces the ability of local authorities to offer mortgages to the tens of thousands of tenants who would prefer to buy their own homes but cannot meet the building societies' criteria. It eats into the funds available to housing associations, tenants' co-operatives and co-ownership schemes, all projects which are necessary to bring more flexibility to a housing market now too sharply divided between the owner occupier and the council tenant.

None of these criticisms would justify rejection of Mr Healey's package. That has to be judged in broader perspective. They do not necessarily mean that he will fail in the future as he has in the past to exercise effective overall control of public expenditure. A few cosmetic concessions would even be a price worth paying if they enabled the Chancellor to practise a more general stringency. But the Government must recognize that safety is not to be found in the present economic conditions by trading higher social spending against the hope of restraint on incomes.

MR RABIN'S IFS AND BUTS

The progress of peacemaking efforts in the Middle East is rather like that of an old-fashioned gramophone which has to be wound up by hand. The machine had come to a stop in about 1971 with the needle still in the groove. In October, 1973, it was wound up very vigorously, the record being severely damaged in the process but then spinning away very fast. During 1974 it gradually slowed down again. At the moment it is still playing but we seem to be hearing the same bar of music over and over again. Is this a trick of the composer's or has the needle got stuck?

Yesterday, as Mr Rabin's voice could be heard launching a weary once more into the well-worn *de capo* "I do believe there are now signs that Egypt is prepared to change its stand", it was the latter hypothesis that gained ground among musicologists familiar with the work being performed. In *Exitus Israel de Aegypto*. Indeed so strong was this impression that some listeners distinctly thought they heard the words "it is a very protracted process which may take weeks, months, maybe a year". It appears, however, that they were wrong and that Mr Rabin was merely warning that negotiations might drag on for "as much as six months".

That is still a fairly massive dose of cold water to pour on the hopes raised last week by reports that a new interim agreement was imminent if not

actually concluded. Evidently when Mr Rabin at the time described these reports as "premature" he meant a great deal more than that there were still a few details to be cleared up before they could be officially confirmed. For he now says that "unless the change (in Egypt's position) is a big one, Israel cannot agree".

The least one can say is that Israel has succeeded in obtaining an extension of the two-week deadline reportedly set by President Ford at the end of last month for a decision on whether or not to withdraw from the Mide and Gidi passes. It must be assumed that this was achieved by giving an answer in the form of "Yes but" and "Yes if". The "Yes" refers to withdrawal from the main body of the passes and perhaps also to an American suggestion that the present Israeli early-warning system at the summit should henceforth be manned by American personnel who would pass on their observations of Egyptian troop movements to Israel. (Remarkably enough, President Sadat is apparently willing to agree to this, perhaps in the shrewd calculation that it will reinforce Israel's sense of dependence on the United States.)

The "but" is believed to preface a demand that Israel be allowed to retain a "foothold" of a mile or two at the eastern end of the passes. Egypt's final position on this is not yet known.

But most important are the "ifs", which take the form of a series of questions addressed to both Egypt and the United States, and which apparently have succeeded in putting the ball at least temporarily back in Cairo's court. In part these questions concern the practical expression which Egypt would give of her intention not to upset the agreement by force, given that a formal declaration of non-belligerency is now admitted to be out of the question. In part they concern the nature of the *quid pro quo* which Israel would get from the United States for compliance with American wishes: this could take the form of guaranteed oil supplies, of economic aid, of new weapons systems, and of diplomatic support, or at least of a promise not to support Arab pressure for further concessions, whether at the Geneva Conference or in new indirect negotiations with Syria.

Washington will have to grant some of these requests, if not all. But the Egyptians will presumably want to know which of them, and how far, before deciding whether on balance the deal is to their advantage. For each of these American concessions to Israel will weaken the Arab negotiating hand in the next round, and the last of them, if granted, might make it difficult to ensure that there is a next round at all. It is doubtful whether President Sadat can afford, or would wish, to retrieve the passes and the oilfields at that price.

David Wood

Why MPs should get a pay rise

This week the House of Commons will hear from Mr Short, the leader of the House, to whom the time has come when the Minister of the House should be asked to go over the parapet of the Cabinet's decision on the MP's pay and allowances. Nothing is more than that the announcement will be made on Thursday, and some Conservative members by its meanness, and gripe the British public by its greedy and nest-feathering generosity.

Shop stewards of the Labour backbenchers' pay claim will not be satisfied unless the purchasing power of their £4,500 award from May 1972, is fully restored, which would mean an increase of 10 per cent; and, if my correspondence from readers of *The Times* is a guide, almost any increase will be met by MPs being urged to turn a storm of contumely and ire from many taxpayers. If Parliament asks the nation for crutches to clear up the mess MPs have created or connived at, let us now set the example. So my respondents mistakenly rant.

The Government's acute embarrassment at the Boyle recommendations is plain. After all, the Boyle view body arrived at its figures in a properly and a fine disregard of the political situation that would be at the time of publication, and it happened that the Prime Minister received the report on June 13 did not bring it on to the binner agenda for decision until Thursday. At that time Cabinet was being the Boyle recommendations designedly intertwined with an argument on the draft White Paper to set a £6-a-week limit on anybody's pay for the year starting on August 1. And that argument

was overruled by Mr Jack Jones's horror at the prospect of an award of 40-65 per cent by Mr Michael Foot's suggestion that ministers could take a cut; and by a Labour backbencher's Bill to redistribute ministerial salaries among MPs.

There is little doubt about the strategy of the statement announcing the Cabinet's vested decision: it is accepted, in the Cabinet room if not inside the Parliamentary Labour Party, that the straight pay increase for MPs as recommended by Boyle must be halted, to bring up salary up to £6,000 or rather more, the run up to a statutory wage freeze, such an award would be embarrassing but it could at least be decently argued; and, it would be generous enough to contain the Labour backbench revolt and take the sting out of the threat of industrial action by the most militant shop stewards (such as refusal to serve on committees).

But the strategy will not stop at pay. In accordance with the cowardice of all Governments in recent times, stinginess on MPs' pay will be compensated for by fairly generous increases in allowances about which the ordinary elector is apt to understand little or nothing. Prime Ministers and Cabinets know that any salary increase for themselves or backbenchers has the disadvantage of electoral odium, but if allowances are raised backbenchers can be mollified and electors can be deceived. As the years pass MPs are being turned into expense-account men of the kind Mr Wilson and Labour Chancellor are prone to condemn.

This article is meant to be a collective reply to readers of *The Times* who seem to be misguided. As I argued here recently, there is an unanswerable case for MPs to be decently paid, and probably to have the benefit of some system whereby they are protected against inflation by the fact that their salaries are indexed to the cost of living. At the same time, they should not be so generously paid that membership of the House becomes a well-paid career in its own right. The danger is less in the payment of a known equitable salary, which can be publicly argued about, than in a growing system of allowances that creates the temptation to abuse and turns MPs into a privileged expense-account class.

Apart from his salary, what bene-

fits does the backbencher already enjoy? The list is long. Free postage; free telephones; free stationery; heavily subsidised meals; free office or office space; free travel to and from his constituency (with some free travel for his wife); secretarial allowance; research assistance allowance on top of the excellent facilities provided by the House of Commons Library; a "two-homes" allowance for MPs outside London; London-rate for others; free copying facilities; and the unique role of self-employed men who have voted themselves to be employees of Parliament when it comes to national insurance contributions.

Not a few MPs already employ their wives as amateur secretaries to increase the family income, and there is little effective check on the cost allowance of 77p per mile. It would be healthy for members to be paid openly a proper rate for the job, and healthier for the electors to know precisely what that rate is, rather than to continue the present practice of pusillanimous deception about what makes up a member's income.

So much for the Boyle report. Let me now turn, with pleasure, to the dinner in the Reform Club tonight at which the 80th birthday of William Robson, Professor Emeritus of Public Administration, University of London, and "the onlie begetter" of *The Political Quarterly*, will be celebrated by his friends and admirers. The July-August number of the quarterly he founded, now out, will be the last in which he figures as joint editor, for he is to become chairman of the editorial board and John Mackintosh, MP, will join Bernard Crick as joint editor.

For 45 years, except for a period during the war when Leonard Woolf carried sole charge, William Robson has conducted and inspired the best political journal in the English-speaking world, and piloted it through vicissitudes that would have broken anybody else's spirit. He has matched specialist knowledge and political acumen with an integrity that has been inviolate, and for a working lifetime has placed politics and politicians under an undischarged debt. Tonight, it is good to know, we shall salute him—and leave the long-farewell from the quarterly to a distant day.

Squatters and the law

From Mr Tony Judge
Sir, Miss Elizabeth Harper's letter (July 11) rightly drew public attention to the illegal behaviour of squatters who invade private homes and the reluctance of the police to take action against them. If only the law were as clear as she suggests. One of the most significant features of the current problem of squatting is that the same people who show such contempt for other people's rights have been thoroughly briefed on the law's provisions.

A major GLC housing development to provide many homes for people in real need has been delayed for a year now by the skilful manipulation of the law by squatters. This council has pursued a reasonable and humane policy of permitting short let property to be occupied by "licensed" groups of squatters on condition that it is vacated as and when required. In this case, the squatters took advantage of a temporary extension of their "licence" to invalidate High Court proceedings for recovery. In another, the same group managed to retain possession of another property on a technicality about the rateable value of the dwelling. The cost to the public is incredibly high. Meanwhile, the elements so colourfully (and accurately) described by Miss Harper wage a vicious campaign of propaganda against the "inhuman" GLC.

It is important to draw a proper distinction between homeless families, who now form the major part of the totals being housed by the GLC and Inner London boroughs, and the worthless and late-coming squatters for whom Miss Harper says, the country has no conceivable duty to house. It is past time that we cleared up the absurdities in the law to reassert the rights of owners, be they public or private. In the meantime, I have considerable sympathy for the problems facing the police. They are far more complex than Miss Harper appears to understand.

Yours faithfully,
TONY JUDGE, Chairman,
GLC Housing Management
Members' Lobby,
The County Hall, SE1,
July 11.

Power of coroner's court

From Mr R. Edey
Sir, In 1936 the Departmental Committee on Coroners recommended the abolition of the duty of the Coroner to inquire into and consider criminal responsibility for death and to hold criminal proceedings upon coroners' inquests. The Broderick Committee which reported in 1965 again called for the abolition of this procedure.

It is scandalous that Parliament has not yet acted. Recently at Bristol Assizes two doctors were accused of the manslaughter of a two-year-old boy who died from appendicitis, they having diagnosed gastro-enteritis. The prosecution offered no evidence and said the doctors were not to blame for the boy's death. The inquest jury returned a verdict of manslaughter. The doctors would have attended the inquest without any charge having been made against them, with different rules of evidence than in a criminal court and furthermore the Coroner need not even have been a lawyer.

The situation was further highlighted by the inquest on Sandra Rivett and the paming of Lord Lucan as her murderer. It is difficult to see how Lord Lucan could have a fair trial should this prove necessary. Another case I vividly remember was in the aftermath of the Lewisham train disaster with the loss of over 100 lives. The unfortunate driver of the steam train had a verdict of manslaughter returned against him by the inquest jury. When he subsequently appeared at the Old Bailey no evidence was offered against him. Between 1961 and 1970, 105 people were committed for trial solely upon a Coroner's inquisition and not a single conviction was recorded on the Coroner's inquisition alone.

Parliament should act forthwith to abolish the procedure whereby the Coroner's inquisition names those guilty of criminal responsibility which it is not competent to do, and which should be left to the prosecuting authorities. The inquest should merely determine the cause of death. Many people have been wrongly charged and caused unnecessary anguish and distress by this procedure which serves no useful purpose.
Yours faithfully,
R. EDEY,
69 Eton Avenue,
Swiss Cottage, NW3.

In place of the elm

From Mrs Jacynth Hope-Simpson
Sir, When works of art are likely to be exported, when historic buildings are threatened, when the cash price of saving them for the nation. Has anybody yet put a price on the English landscape?

It could be argued that our pastoral landscape, the product of many centuries, is the loveliest work of man's hands in England; certainly it is the one enjoyed by the greatest number of people. Yet daily, in front of our eyes, the balance of this landscape is being destroyed by Dutch elm disease. It has hit the trees cleverly placed in eighteenth-century parkland, the clusters round village church towers, the long ridges of trees which once dominated the skyline. The saplings in hedgerows are dying off as well as the older trees.

What would it cost to promote a massive replanting of broad-leaved trees of some more resilient species? We might not live to see the results ourselves, but this is the only way in which the character of our landscape can be preserved.

Yours faithfully,
JACYNTH HOPE-SIMPSON,
The Red House,
Harley Road,
Plymouth,
July 7.

Finances of the Post Office

From Mr Victor Ross
Sir, So the Post Office must be made to pay for itself, come what may. But this presupposes that there is a level of postal rates, at which the requirement for service and for profit can be brought into balance.

All the evidence points the other way. As rates go up, traffic shrinks, unit costs rise, calling for further rate increases leading to further reductions in volume, and so on. This is the vicious circle that began to close last March when the letter rate went up to 7p. The idea of trying to set an acceptable level of service from a public monopoly by means of the price mechanism is inherently absurd. I hope that Members of Parliament, on Tuesday afternoon, will press for a halt to further postage rate increases until there has been a thorough enquiry into the public service aspect of the Post Office's work, and the proper way of financing it.
Yours very truly,
VICTOR ROSS,
10 Templewood Avenue, NW3.

From Sir Robert Lusty
Sir, It may be difficult, but it would, I suggest, be altogether wrong to allow irritation, frustration, doubt and dejection to deter our democratic society from insisting that cool consideration and appraisal should be given now to the functions for which we expect our so-called Post Office to accept responsibility. Much as its own present approach to these may seem highly irresponsible and even arrogant, it is difficult to deny, on reflection, that the Post Office has a duty towards, and a standing in, the country. It is not what we now call "communication" hardly less important than those of the broadcasting authorities and the press. Those in alleged charge of the Post Office must not be allowed to regard themselves only as the conveyor of other people's messages at commercial rates.

The Post Office—or at any rate our Post Office—has a vital part to play in the whole field of communication and in nearly all those areas to which technological anomalies have extended its influence.

Both the printed word—whose virtual monopoly neatly straddles the 500 years from Caxton to cassette—and the broadcast message by whatever means requires at some stage the services of the Post Office. It is difficult, even in these hazardous times, to find a higher priority than that required by "communication" at every level at which it operates. A breakdown here could be even more calamitous to society than the collapse of any man-made network. No society should allow its "Post Office" to price its essential purposes out of court as a butcher might his chops. The

Newspaper production

From the Chairman of Portsmouth and Sunderland Newspapers Ltd.
Sir, There has recently been at least a temporary settlement of the Portsmouth newspaper dispute. You have covered this matter in a small way in the inside pages of your paper in recent weeks.

I really am dismayed, however, at the little importance that you seem to have attached to this extremely serious dispute.

Our industry is notorious for ignoring its own problems while criticising those of others. On this occasion you have been guilty of this sin.

As was pointed out to you in your correspondence columns by Richard Winfrey (July 2) the National Graphical Association succeeded in censoring papers as far apart as Portsmouth and Sunderland—to quota but two examples. This form of censorship could be used against advertisers in the future for any reason that any union cared to imagine.

As was pointed out in your correspondence columns by Jim Sharman today (July 8), the use of flying pickets at Portsmouth brought a total collapse of the local police's ability to maintain law and order.

The success, or otherwise, of the NGA's industrial action introduces a new weapon into industrial relations of unparalleled power. Were this weapon to be found successful it would be available in the future

Christian unity

From the Reverend Richard Stewart
Sir, Your report of the recent document of the Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity on *Ecumenical Collaboration* ("Vatican Council II and the wider ecumenical movement", July 8), gives a depressingly negative picture of an essentially positive document. The main thrust of the document is not to put on the brake, but to stimulate local churches to take their proper share in ecumenical participation.

"Ecumenism on the local level is a primary element of the ecumenical situation as a whole. It is not secondary or merely derivative. It has an initiative of its own and its task is a wider one than merely implementing world-wide ecumenical directives on a small scale." I know of no other recent Roman document which speaks so explicitly of the initiatory role of the local church in this sphere.

Much of the document concerns Catholic relations with national and local councils of churches. It shows that there is no ecclesiastical bar to membership. Any decision about membership of a national council rests with the local bishops' conference, and is to be made in the light of the practical and pastoral situation in the country concerned and also of the character of the council in question. There is a list of some 19 national councils in which we are in full membership, in countries as diverse as Sweden, Sudan and Samoa. The document, as you note, draws attention to the problem that ethical issues can occasion; but it also encourages dialogue on these very issues (as did Vatican II).

Your report quotes the passage about Catholic representatives on councils being "clearly aware of the limits beyond which they cannot commit their Church" (true, I should imagine, of the representa-

freedom of the press is no use if confined to an area around Fleet Street. Printed books and papers are useless in a warehouse. A family spread around the world and debauched by cost from correspondence, ceases to have cohesion.

In every pronouncement it makes the Post Office seems quite incapable of recognizing its own purposes in the world of today. It requires a new name, a new directive and a new urgency and I beg to suggest that the priorities for this are very high indeed.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT LUSTY,
Old Silk Mill,
Blockley, Gloucestershire.

From Mr Kenneth Adams
Sir, During this week we have, so far, received one postal delivery only, owing, I understand, to the illness of the nominal postman who, I may say, is a most pleasant and efficient servant of the GPO. Surely, in these circumstances, some alternative delivery service could have been arranged.

On today sent a protest in the strongest possible terms to the Head Postmaster in Aldershot, under whose direction our local postal service operates, not only for myself, but also for all the residents of our village.

This country used to pride itself on the finest postal service in Europe, but in spite of crippling increases in cost—and further rises are forecast—the service is now lamentable: I have known of instances of letters paid for at the first class rates taking three days to travel five miles. Surely this is a matter for the Monopoly Commission to examine and investigate whether we could have an alternative private service, thereby introducing some measure of competition, which seems to me imperative in this country at the moment if we are to return to being an efficient state.

Yours truly,
KENNETH ADAMS,
Hartside, Bucks Horn Oak,
Farnham, Surrey.

From Mr T. J. Whiting
Sir, The Post Office is once more seeking a substantial increase in charges but when can we expect to get service for which we pay?

On July 5 my wife sent a green-on telegram from Ipswich to a tourist centre to Ripon where her college was holding a reunion that day. It was handed in soon after 9.30 am with a request that it be dealt with speedily but it was not delivered until the morning of the 7th. For a message of fewer than 12 words it was charged £1.48. 13 Yours faithfully,
T. J. WHITING,
83 Parkman Avenue,
Thorpe Bay, Essex.

with an effect that could be disastrous in almost any industry. The basis of the dispute at Portsmouth involved the introduction of Optical Character Recognition machinery which has been used elsewhere in the world for at least 15 years but the use of which in this country is limited to partial use of it at Nottingham and now Portsmouth. Your own newspaper office is about as backward as any in this country—why are you using a very great deal indeed of it? I have had hoped and expected that on an issue of this sort you would at least have had a view.

Thus there are four matters of the very greatest importance to industry as a whole and the newspaper industry in particular which you virtually ignored. So important did this matter seem to Members of Parliament that last Friday, even after the Whip had been issued, it was agreed to hold a debate on it on July 8. However I cannot see any reason to the decision to hold this debate, or any reason for its inclusion in your columns.

I suggest it is wrong that, while you are prepared to criticize and comment on every aspect of every other industry, you remain silent on issues that directly your own newspaper and the industrial wilderness in which it operates. Yours sincerely,
RICHARD STOREY, Chairman,
Portsmouth and Sunderland Newspapers Ltd,
85 Fleet Street, EC4.

tives of any church on any council. But the sentences that immediately follow also deserve quotation: "It is not enough that the Church simply have delegates in a council or other ecumenical structure; unless they are taken seriously by Catholic authorities, the Catholicism will remain purely superficial. For the same reason all participation in ecumenical structures should be accompanied by constant ecumenical education of Catholics concerning the implications of such participation."

The document explicitly restricts itself to "organized ecumenical work and its national and diocesan structures". More informal action is mentioned only in passing, and in a very brief final section, the phrase "wildcat ecumenism" does not occur in the text (I assume it is a rendering of *ecumenisme sauvage*). The risks inherent in informal groups are only touched upon lightly: what is stressed is a commonplace Catholic principle, ecumenism that such groups should "function in full communion with the local bishop if they are to be authentically ecumenical". Indeed in connexion with the hierarchy of the Church, these informal groups can offer original and inspiring ideas.

Finally, given the limits the document sets itself, it is significant that we are told that structures alone are not enough. What really matters is not the creation of new structures but the collaboration of Christians in prayer, reflection and action, based on common baptism and on a faith which on many essential points is also common."

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD L. STEWART,
Consultant, Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity,
Roman Catholic Ecumenical Commission of England and Wales,
44 Gray's Inn Road, WC1.

The increase in juvenile crime

From Mrs Renée Soskin
Sir, Once again you highlight in your leader (July 10) one of the most deeply worrying features of present day society—the increase in juvenile crime even among very young children.

To those of us who were asked to work under the 1969 Children Act there is little consolation in repeating that we warned at the time of the consequences of the Act. Now, six years later, we still see no legislation to give back to the courts at least the power to establish a clear position for children of what is right and what is wrong and the consequences of breaking laws. Not only this, but we have not been given the provision of facilities with which we could have attempted to make the Act work, and under the present economic stresses are unlikely to do so.

Until children, young people and their parents know clearly that society intends to see that its laws are kept for the good of all, that breaking those laws, including non-attendance at school, will not be tolerated, that long records of serious crime can no longer be achieved with impunity, we are sowing the seeds of disaster and, even worse, we are failing in our duty to the young.

Yours faithfully,
RENEE SOSKIN, Chairman,
Camden Juvenile Court,
163a Seymour Place, W1.

Booking a seat

From Mr Peter Forster
Sir, While we are on the subject, could the various administrators of the state-subsidised theatres and opera houses make some attempt to publicise their future plans simultaneously so that their patrons, planning their diaries and booking months ahead, can safely book for something in one repertoire without missing something in another?

The present situation is typical but more than usually frustrating since it concerns Covent Garden's superb Ring (as advertised by Mr Levin), its actual dates unknown when booking is already open and closed by other theatres and opera houses. As seats for the Ring will presumably be available only by the notoriously uncertain system of postal booking, obliging one to leave all possible options for alternative performances open, it will be impossible to book anything else at all at the English National Opera, the National Theatre, the Aldwych, the Royal Opera House, the middle of September and the middle of October. I am, yours faithfully,
P. G. FORSTER,
1 College Court,
College Crescent, NW3,
July 3.

Hongkong gold coin

From the Hongkong Commissioner in London
Sir, You said in a report headed "Hongkong upset by Royal Mint's advice" (June 9) that the Financial Secretary of Hongkong, Mr C. P. Haddon-Cave, had blamed the Royal Mint for underestimating the sales potential of the Royal visit commemorative gold coin issue. This is a gross misstatement of what Mr Haddon-Cave's remarks were.

It is true that the Royal Mint advised that the issue should be limited to 20,000 coins, but they made it clear from the outset that they were not qualified to assess the likely Hongkong interest and, in fact, the Hongkong demand which has exceeded expectations, clearly the Royal Mint bear no responsibility for our inability to meet all the orders we received for the coin. Yours faithfully,
S. T. KIDD,
Hongkong Government Office,
6 Grafton Street, W1.

Ordination of women

From the Rev Joseph McCulloch
Sir, In the autumn of 1942, soon after his translation to Canterbury, William Temple read the typescript of a critical book about the Church of England which was shortly to be published. He declared himself very sympathetic towards its publication, but suggested that a chapter making the case for the ordination of women should be omitted, not because he disagreed with it, but because the considerable blind prejudice the book would excite might obscure the general excellence of its publication.

The recent deliberations of the General Synod, 33 years later, reveal that the Church of England remains much as Archbishop Temple once described it. He said that it resembled nothing so much as a certain prehistoric monster, equipped with two brain-pans for and off, which if imperfectly coordinated, rendered the monster totally immobile. Perhaps, however, we have made a little progress, so far, at any rate, as the level of Augustine's prayer: "Make me chaste, but not yet." Surely the most serious objection to ordaining women at present is severely practical. With what would the Church pay them—celluloid counters?

Yours faithfully,
JOSEPH MCCULLOCH,
St Mary-le-Bow,
Cheapside, EC2.

Left-handers

From Mr Alan Watkins
Sir, Left-handers: Here is a world post-1945. XI, selecting from those who both batted and bowled left, and who batted right and bowled left. (The last two categories, it seems from your report, are even more likely to be mixed up and generally incompetent.) A. Morris, B. Sutcliffe, N. Harvey, D. Compton, G. Pollock, G. Sobers (captain), A. Davidson, R. Marsh, W. Johnston, B. Statham, J. Wardle, Twelfth man: M. Donnelly. Yours faithfully,
ALAN WATKINS,
As from 12 Batdishill Street, N1.

مكازم الأرحيل

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWSQuestions raised
by the property
investment slide,
page 17CORDON efforts to take
he sting out
of redundancy,
page 16Post Office prepares for
manpower cutbacks in
mail and phone servicesBy Maurice Corina,
Industrial Editor

First victim of the Chancellor's clampdown on state industry wage bills is the Post Office Corporation. Its board is repaying a programme of cuts in its labour force, and other mail and telephone services will be affected.

Talks will be taking place with both the Union of Post Office Workers and the PO Engineering Union on how manpower levels can be reduced, with restrictions on new recruitment as well as redeployment helping to ease the scale of dismissals.

Some reductions in the scale of the corporation's huge capital investment programme seem likely, too.

These measures follow the decision to seek substantial rises for the postal and telecommunications services, without them, would mean a loss of at least £250m in the current financial year.

The crisis besetting the Post Office will be the subject of a Commons debate tomorrow, when the Opposition will be demanding a public inquiry into more information about the Government's policy towards the corporation.

At the time of the Budget the Chancellor was told that a deficit of £50m was expected this year after allowing for the price rise in the summer.

The Opposition's criticisms of the corporation and its chairman, Sir William Ryland.

No one at the Post Office, which has a 420,000 payroll, is saying much at this stage on the sensitive topic of man-

power cuts. But the plan seems to be that the number of staff in the postal service will be progressively reduced in line with the continuing fall in mail traffic. This would be followed by further reductions as services are changed.

At the same time the telecommunications service is to prepare new manpower forecasts related to gains in productivity from the investment programme.

The most startling change in telecommunications is a new conclusion that higher telephone tariffs have disrupted the enormous equipment ordering programme.

Further rises in telephone call charges have increased the probability that, instead of the traditional strain on the service from constantly rising demand, the boom in demand will soon be over. The result would be a rapid transition from a period of explosive growth to one of contraction, with all that this implies for the equipment supply industry.

Production of telephone hand sets has already been cut in half in response to a fresh look at ordering. Spending on the production of equipment in 1975-76 will almost certainly be reduced in an effort to keep capital borrowings more in line with the revenue account's ability to meet interest charges.

The whole of the telecommunications programme has until now been based on the forecast that inland calls will go up from around 266 per head a year to 400 by 1980.

The two big price rises in 1975 will affect both this forecast and the planned rise in working connections, requiring

new exchanges and local line extensions (including the wide-spread replacement of labour-intensive Scrogger exchanges by Cross bar and, in due course, TXE4 equipment).

Demands for an official inquiry into the running of the Post Office continue to mount.

The Association of British Chambers of Commerce is calling for an independent inquiry, alongside the Telephone Users Association. The ABCC goes so far as to suggest that a new management team is "urgently required".

The Mail Order Publishers' Authority, in a statement this weekend, has described the proposed postal tariff increases as "plain bloody daft".

The new rises, it says, mean that tariffs have risen 400 per cent since January 1971. A parliamentary investigation is needed, it argues.

This week the statutory Post Office National Users' Council will meet under its chairman, Lord Peadar, to give its reaction to the corporation's revision of its financial forecast and the application for across-the-board price increases and service cuts. Lord Peadar has already said he is appalled.

In the Commons, the Department of Industry's ministerial team will be repeating the warning to place strict financial limits on the Post Office deficit financing this year.

The Treasury is prepared to subsidize the corporation only by a £70m compensation payment for 1975-76, forcing the Post Office, with its new loss forecast of £300m and £300m, to seek autumn tariff changes and to ask for union support in a severe programme of economies.

Government
borrowing
in May rose
to £772m

By Tim Congdon

The central government borrowing requirement in May was £772m, according to *Financial Statistics* for June. This compares with £330m in May last year.

In the first two months of the present financial year the borrowing requirement was £1,180m—larger than in the first quarter of the 1974-75 financial year when it was £990m.

Although the Government's borrowing needs are much higher at present than a year ago the figures should be interpreted cautiously. In his budget statement Mr Healey, the Chancellor, projected a government borrowing requirement of £7,827m, far above the borrowing requirement in the 1974-75 financial year now estimated to have reached £5,130m.

Thus the increase in the borrowing requirement over the corresponding period of last year may be comparable with the Government's financial objectives. Moreover, it is understood that borrowing in the first quarter was expected to be high because the rapid expansion of public sector pay and prices towards the end of the 1974-75 financial year is still affecting expenditure totals.

In Friday's White Paper on inflation policy cash limits on a large area of public spending were announced and the Government declared itself determined to control borrowing by local authorities and to remove the deficits of the nationalized industries.

The recent financial performance of the local authorities and public corporations will, however, not be known for some months because the figures are compiled less quickly than for the government.

There has been widespread speculation among financial analysts in the City that government spending is so far ahead of inflation that the borrowing requirement for the public sector as a whole will be greater than announced in the Budget.

But the official view is that it is too early to make predictions because the monthly pattern of receipts and expenditure, especially towards the beginning and end of the financial year, is highly variable.

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American union accuses Leyland
of 'dumping' Morris Marinas

By Roger Velevo

British Leyland has been accused of "dumping" Morris Marinas at prices substantially below their British value.

The powerful United Auto Workers union (UAW) has also named Volkswagen and Fiat in a complaint to the United States Treasury that European carmakers were violating the Anti-Dumping Act.

The 1974 Marinas—marketed in the United States as an Austin—were sold at \$2,499 with power disc brakes as standard equipment, compared with an equivalent British factory price of \$2,884 for a four-door model, the union claims.

Disparities between the two prices, it says, even go as far as to say that Marinas can be sold in Britain without several hundred dollars worth of additional equipment fitted to bring the vehicle up to American safety and emission standards.

A spokesman for British Leyland said yesterday that it had been forced to make a cut of \$400 (about £180) in the price of the Marina because of stern competition in the market. American manufacturers were harming domestic carmakers and their workers.

Rallies by both agencies against the three European companies could lead to penalty duties on imports.

British Leyland added yesterday that the situation was complicated by the fact that its dealers were still selling the stocks of 1974 Marinas. The 1975 models were coming into the showrooms and, those would be more expensive.

The other models named in the complaint are the Volkswagen Golf and the Fiat 128 coupe.

A 30-day preliminary inquiry will be held into the allegations, and could be followed by a full-scale investigation.

If as a result of this second inquiry the Treasury finds that imports are being sold at "less than fair value" there would be an investigation by the United States International Trade Commission to determine whether these imports were harming domestic carmakers and their workers.

The car importers' association had denied the allegations to the Treasury but had not yet received any reply, he said. Japanese manufacturers are also involved in price-cutting, but were not named in the UAW complaint. The union said it was also checking prices of Japanese cars with a view to broadening the allegations.

The trouble on this occasion is a strike by 800 workers in a factory at Hemel Hempstead which makes axle and suspension units. They want an interim pay increase of £10 a week because they claim earnings have fallen behind those of other British Leyland workers.

The dispute has led to a stoppage of production of Triumph Jaguar, MG and Austin 18/22 cars, causing the layoff of about 1,000 other workers, but British Leyland has made it clear that it will not concede the claim.

The dispute is unofficial and in clear breach of the company's agreements with the unions. The existing pay agreement at Hemel Hempstead does not expire until the end of September, well after the date on which the Government's new £6 a week pay ceiling comes into force.

The strikers are to meet again on July 31, the day before the £6 limit becomes operative. In these circumstances the Government's tough line on wages could affect their attitude then.

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BLMC shareholders
still seek better terms

By Terry Byland

Today's meetings of share and stockholders in BLMC, called to approve the Government's plans to reorganize the motor car and lorry manufacturer, will hear an eleven-hour call by some private shareholders for better terms.

An amendment has been tabled calling for a continuing stake for shareholders worth 15p a share, on top of the 10p cash offered by the Government.

But Lord Stokes, making his final appearance as chairman, is expected to tell the meetings that he has already sought higher terms from Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, but met with a firm refusal.

And Lord Stokes already has in hand sufficient proxy votes to control the meeting of ordinary shareholders which will effectively make the decision.

Mr Michael Fleury, a member of the BLMC Shareholders Association Committee, who described today's proposal as "a last chance" for shareholders to improve the terms, commented that the proxy votes had been committed without shareholders having the opportunity to consider the amendment.

The committee's proposals include the suggestion that the Government should set a period during which shareholders would not be allowed to sell the continuing 15p a share investment. It is understood that BLMC's largest individual shareholder, Mr Len Matthews, chairman of Mafro, who has more than 400,000 shares, will support the amendment.

But votes to accept the Government's plans are expected from most of the main institutional shareholders, which include the Prudential, with 38 million shares and the Nuffield Foundation, with 25 million.

Shareholders will vote twice, first on acceptance of the Scheme of Arrangement, and then on whether to take the Government's cash alternative, to staying in the company.

It is thought many small shareholders will decide to stay with the company. It is also possible that several institutions may choose to stay, with part of their holdings because on the one hand they do not want to seem anxious to abandon a huge private sector manufacturer to the State, and on the other they want to respond to government pressure to put money into industry.

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Strikes cause
£20m car
output loss

By R. W. Shakespeare

British Leyland's latest labour problems have cost about £20m worth of car production over the past month. As so often in the past, they arise from a bottleneck in component supplies caused by a dispute involving a relatively small number of men in one of its key plants.

The trouble on this occasion is a strike by 800 workers in a factory at Hemel Hempstead which makes axle and suspension units. They want an interim pay increase of £10 a week because they claim earnings have fallen behind those of other British Leyland workers.

The dispute has led to a stoppage of production of Triumph Jaguar, MG and Austin 18/22 cars, causing the layoff of about 1,000 other workers, but British Leyland has made it clear that it will not concede the claim.

The dispute is unofficial and in clear breach of the company's agreements with the unions. The existing pay agreement at Hemel Hempstead does not expire until the end of September, well after the date on which the Government's new £6 a week pay ceiling comes into force.

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Egypt ready
to speed
industrial
projects

By Derek Harris

With hopes rising of an interim agreement being concluded soon with Israel, Egypt has already begun pushing various investment projects, some from the United Kingdom, through their often ponderous civil service machine.

The signing of an agreement will be a signal to speed up industrial and tourist projects, especially those within the scope of the £4,000m five-year development of the canal towns of Port Said, Ismailia and Suez.

Of 162 investment projects for Port Said, 33 have now been approved, costing about £30m. There are 390 investment projects under civil service scrutiny, 163 of which have been approved.

One United Kingdom project likely to be speeded up is the British Leyland plan for an assembly plant for Land Rovers and lorries. This may be sited in the Port Said customs-free area.

Another is the float glass project for which Pilkington, the St Helens manufacturer, has submitted a feasibility study. Such a deal is likely to be worth at least £30m.

Southern Pacific Properties, in which P & O has a 34-per cent share, has already started preliminary work on a large residential and tourist centre near the pyramids outside Cairo. The main construction is due to start next January, first development costs being £25m.

The Egyptians have approved in principle a desert tourist centre at Ras el Helwan on the Mediterranean coast, on which SPA hopes to start work in 1977. Early development costs are expected to be also around £25m.

Total investment in the sector will probably reach about £175m.

A speed-up in investment deals is likely to affect discussions with Ford of America on an engine plant near Alexandria.

Pilkington plant closure resisted.

Union officials have told Pilkington Brothers that they will oppose the planned closure of the company's colour television glassware factory at Ravenhead in St Helens.

Pilkington announced earlier this month that the continuing depressed state of the colour television market and a high level of imports had forced it to shut the Ravenhead operation with the loss of 750 jobs.

This followed a Department of Industry decision not to grant the factory a temporary employment subsidy.

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Russia may
require 15m
tons of grain

By a Special Correspondent

It is widely expected in shipping circles that the Russians will contract more tramp tonnage on 12 to 18 months' charter after this week to lift purchases of around 15 million tons of North American grain.

Despite a recent over the past few days that as many as 39 bulk carriers have already been chartered, it is thought that less than 20 have so far been taken. A total requirement of 50 vessels—as suggested by leading New York shipbrokers—has not yet been considered a distinct possibility, however, in view of the quantity of grain the Soviet Union is said to need.

This is also the belief of many London brokers after days of rumour around the Baltic Exchange. So far the only confirmation of any Soviet activity has come from the freight markets—the Soviet shipping agency Sovfracht through its New York offices advertised chartering an unspecified number of ships.

Some London ship owners concede that they have chartered vessels for Russian grain movements, but there is definitely been no acknowledgement of grain purchases, nevertheless it is strongly suspected that a deal is being negotiated for a cargo of more than three million tons as agreed with Canada a month ago, and American officials have said grain houses are in continuing negotiations with the Russians.

The last time the Soviet Union came into the freight market for such a quantity of cargo was in 1972, when it purchased large quantities of American grain. It sparked a most lucrative boom enjoyed by shipowners.

Unlike 1972, however, Russia appears to have failed to tie its purchase contracts to a firm price known by the brokers here say that the nature of the grain, its arming programme, has forced them in some difficulty, the same time it is doubted that the United States grain houses have managed to ice their hedges.

Market study ordered
for UK shipbuildingBy Peter Hill,
Industrial Correspondent

A new study of the market prospects for British shipbuilding is being commissioned. It should be completed by the autumn when the Government intends to go ahead with its plans for the nationalisation of the industry.

Consultants have been invited to submit proposals to the industry's embryonic economic development committee as a matter of urgency. The organization's officials appear to be seeking interim reports by the end of October or early November.

But the Little Noddy appears to have decided in advance what priority areas should be studied by British shipbuilders. It has asked consultants to prepare detailed market forecasts of the demand for bulk carriers up to 40,000 tons deadweight for chemicals and products, carriers and for general cargo ships of up to and over 14,000 tons dwt.

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Management

Living with redundancy

One of the worst ways to define a problem, let alone solve it, is to take some part of it that man has created and describe it as inevitable. There is a good deal of this thinking in industrial relations in general.

As the NEDO working party on training observed in their report last week: "It was said that many managers either ignore the industrial relations implications of their actions or see industrial relations as subservient to other functional areas of management." In short, if everything else has been made "objective", the people concerned must die.

Above all, this is true of redundancy. It is a horrible word, and it is made worse by its association with "shake-out", or "pruning dead wood", and all the other shamefaced imagery that goes with them.

Fortunately, most people adapt to the loss of their jobs for commercial or technical reasons without serious loss. It would be an appalling reflection on our industrial culture if this were not so. It is bad enough that we give it such a bad name that people dread it.

Dread it they do. As Mr Bill Daniel commented to a recent international seminar run by PEP and the Anglo-German Foundation in London, all workers consider that the worst will happen to them in a redundancy crisis, regardless of probabilities; it is the psychological anxieties that count.

The probabilities are quite clear from a series of studies over 20 years (and the lack of change is depressing). The overriding influence on the extent of costs suffered by redundant workers is age. The older people are, the longer they take to find a job, the more likely they are to become permanently unemployed and the more likely any new job is to be inferior to the job lost.

Better to be young in an area of high unemployment than old in an area of low unemployment. Better to be young without skills and qualifications than old with skills and qualifications. There is little difference in the relative experience of managerial/professional, clerical, skilled, semi-skilled or unskilled people made redundant. If anything, those with skills specific to the place (foremen, senior skilled, clerks) suffer more than others.

Mr Santosh Mukherjee emphasized that the burden of unemployment (which is tending to increase regardless of economic ups and downs) falls disproportionately on the young, under 24, and the elderly, over 50. Together with

many women and the handicapped they constitute an "outer labour market" with a high proportion of unemployed. Wage-push inflation cannot be generated or sustained by this outer labour market, only by the well organized core of continuously employed.

The anxiety is not all on one side. Mr Richard O'Brien of Delta Metals, who has managed two plant closures personally and had a hand in others, observed that managers tend to become alarmed and perplexed when redundancy appears necessary, and these states of mind alone make them prone to put off the evil day and make mistakes when it arrives.

Redundant workers find themselves in the "bag of gold" and usually prodigiously ignorant of the prospects before them and what they may be equipped to do when their present jobs disappear. A potential redundancy agreement at least makes shop stewards and other influential people aware that there is a system to deal with this aspect of change; even if the system is not perfect, it is better than starting every time from scratch.

Time to plan and time to deal sensitively with hard cases are also important. Mr O'Brien favours a committee with a shop steward as chairman and a commitment to reaching unanimous and binding decisions. Shop stewards in such situations are often realistic where managers are sentimental, and shop stewards are not willing to distribute large additional sums without real need.

Mr Duncan Dawdney of the Manpower Services Commission recalled that for many years he had been associated with a company whose policy of technological development inevitably involved continuous redundancy, as distinct from the redundancy of crisis.

He considers that so long as it is clearly understood that the objective is the regular improvement of performance, and reasonable attention is given to dealing properly with departures, the problem is soluble. On the other hand, policies like early retirement which have been chosen for humane reasons might in fact deprive the firm of valuable experience and require rethinking.

There is more to it even than that. How people are made redundant or retired, what they say about it and how it affects survivors are open and obvious factors which influence the behaviour of the company as a whole. Growing old gracefully

is not so easy that it can be taken for granted. How people are recruited and inducted is much less "scientific" at any level than we would like to suppose, and it may even be less lasting in its effects than the methods of departure because a large proportion of recruits leave anyway within the first two or three years.

Britain is absolute in its methods. Individual managers like Mr O'Brien emphasize redeployment and retraining, but the system still lags behind Germany and Sweden, for example, in this respect and in providing income support during the transition to a new job either in the same employment or another one.

Not that Germans are smug. The German retraining system came under the same criticisms as the British—particularly for its overwhelming favour of workers who are comparatively young and educated already. As offshoots of the conventional education system, both are slow to march the compass (or the comprehension) of workers whose education and training are either modest or a long way behind them.

The crying need is for comparatively expensive ventures into uncharted ground—helping people who have done the same thing for a long time, and may do it no longer because the specific need has gone, to take the measure of what they can do and apply their talents to it.

It is all too easy to suppose that once the unpleasant business of a closure or redundancy is done with, things will "return to normal" and all will be well. This is characteristic of a discontinuous approach to industrial relations, generally somewhat on the lines of a risk-taking motorist who considers himself a good driver because no one has actually been killed yet.

This tendency which helps to explain that other glimpse of wisdom in the NEDO report: "The most immediate and common barrier to progress lies within management itself; the apparent belief that there are few, if any, industrial relations problems which training can help to solve combined with a widespread belief among many managers that they are competent in industrial relations."

Management Training in Industrial Relations: NEDO, £2.30.

The author is Plowden Professor of Industrial Relations at London Business School.

Consultancies making good ground abroad

Management consultancies based in Britain last year achieved an increase of 40 per cent in fees earned abroad. This, when coupled with a much smaller percentage increase in fees earned in the British Isles, was enough to raise overall income by 22 per cent, which was slightly higher than the rate of inflation.

The annual report of the Management Consultants' Association, published last week, shows that overseas work is becoming steadily more important for British consultancies, and during 1974, 39 per cent of all fees were earned abroad compared with 34 per cent in 1973.

There have been marked increases in the number of assignments in Australasia, the Far East and the Middle East, but it is noteworthy that in 1974 there were only 472 assignments in Western Europe, as against 585 in 1973. In the British Isles the number of assignments rose by 22 per cent, though fees earned increased by only 13 per cent.

When British clients are analysed according to the size of the company, it is found that the number of assignments in the largest companies fell from 451 in 1973 to 402 in 1974,

whereas there were significant increases in all other sized categories.

Thus the geographical spread of business last year, and the change in the distribution of assignments by size of company in Britain, suggests that the consultancies failed to hold their own in their most highly developed markets (with Australasia as an exception), and also in the most highly developed companies in Britain.

Whether this reflects a long-term trend, or whether it was the product of short-term conditions is not clear. Certainly trading conditions for consultants in Britain and Europe were, and are, not easy. And there is more or less open talk of consultants cutting fees to obtain business. Consultants say they can obtain a substantially better return for their work in the Middle East and elsewhere than they can in Britain and Europe.

It is notable that, unlike the traumatic year of 1971, the difficult conditions have not caused any reduction in the number of consultants employed in MCA firms, which suggests that they are leaner and fitter than in 1971, and are adapting well to changing conditions.

A private eye on labour

Mr John Clemens, chairman of Marplan Europe, has got together with three friends to form a non-profit-making company selling a system of early warning on labour problems to big employers.

The company is called the Centre for Industrial Communications, and Mr Clemens' associates are Mr Malcolm Brighton, managing director of the Document Reading Service computer bureau, Mr Alan Frost, a psychologist, and Mr Volney Steffler, who is an associate professor of psychology and anthropology at the University of California, Irvine.

Mr Clemens says that CIC is not merely an intelligence agency for the chairman. The work the company does in collecting and analysing employee attitudes and morale is done without union cooperation.

The findings are divulged to both sides, and recommended actions are only made if requested.

With an eye to union approval, two of the five members of the advisory board are members of the TUC general

council, Mr Tom Jackson, general secretary of the postmen, and Mr Ray Buckton of the footplatemen.

When management and unions sit down together, Mr Clemens says, talks are complicated by preconceptions about each other's attitudes.

The National Coal Board—according to Mr Clemens—might not have pressed for productivity agreements had it been aware that the risks of coal-getting made miners more concerned to safeguard the position of the older and infirm men than to jack up the earnings of the young and fit.

CIC will charge market rates and will begin by having Marplan collect the data and DR process it. Any surplus will go into the publication of studies of attitudes in British industry. Mr Clemens says that the company is not just a marketing device for the services of the other two. If CIC takes off, he sees it as putting out the work to tender. A pilot study for EMI is under way.

Ross Davies

Business appointments

Lord Carrington on board of Barclays International

Lord Carrington, who is already a director of Barclays Bank, has additionally become a director of Barclays International.

Mr Ian Clubb has been made general manager of Thomson-Spottiswood Petroleum. He has been financial director of Times Newspapers since 1972, and will be succeeded in this post by Mr Philip Barron, who left on October 31. Since 1974 Mr Barron has been finance manager for Silicon Smelters.

Mr W. L. Foden has been made chief executive of Foden's. Mr C. Foden and Mr S. P. Twemlow continue as joint managing directors.

Mr T. R. Fulgrieve has been appointed a non-executive director of William Blair.

Mr George Home has joined the board of Williams & Glyn's Bank. Mr G. H. Ratcliffe has been appointed managing director of Ocean Linships following the retirement of Mr P. R. Drew. Mr T. M. Forgan will continue as non-executive deputy chairman.

Mr Patrick Donovan has joined the board of Associated British Foods. He has also become chairman of Allied Mills Holdings, in addition to his duties as managing director of the milling division.

Mr M. F. Sanderson, formerly chairman of Bovis, has been made executive chairman of Lowe & Brydone (Printers). Mr J. P. R. Brydone resigns as chairman and

takes on the newly-created post of vice-chairman. Mr D. G. Evans is appointed a non-executive director.

Mr John Watson is to become chairman of Permalt after the annual meeting when Mr A. A. Heath stands down.

Mr C. K. Coombs and Mr D. M. Coombs have been appointed joint chairmen of S. & U. Stores, following the death of Mr Clifford Coombs. In addition Mr D. M. Coombs is appointed sole managing director and Mr R. O. Crutch is managing director of the Swallow-Raincoats subsidiary—(S made a director).

The following appointments have been made to the board of BICC Telecommunications Cables: Mr G. E. Thorne (chairman), Mr G. A. Dodd (executive director), Mr J. Banks, Mr A. M. W. Davis, Mr D. R. Dean, Mr N. S. Dean, Mr C. G. H. Drew, Mr O'Shaughnessy (secretary/accountant), Mr R. B. Sumner and Mr A. E. Wernly.

Mr Michael Skelley has been appointed assistant managing director of Union Carbide UK.

The following appointments have been made to the board of BICC Conalyst: Mr W. L. B. Shankland (chairman), Mr G. F. Travis (executive director), Mr G. Bottomley, Mr W. L. Johnson (secretary/accountant), Mr J. Most, Mr F. E. R. Pipkin and Mr D. K. Roberts.



**SUTCLIFFE
SPEAKMAN
& CO. LTD.**

Salient points from Statement by Chairman, Mr. S. W. Livesey

★ The Group profit before taxation for the year ended 31st March was £346,113, an increase of 34.2%. The return on average capital employed was an excellent 28.8%. Earnings per share on the present capital were 8.2p. The Directors recommend a Final Net Dividend of 1.150p per share, which is the maximum payable under the present restrictions.

★ **ENGINEERING DIVISION.** Activity in all sections continued at a high level throughout the year. Sales of Brackmaking Machinery were well maintained. Sales of Solvent Recovery Plants were higher than the previous year.

★ **CARBON DIVISION.** Expansion has continued and the results reflect further improvement. Demand for carbon has continued to increase, particularly for specialised high quality impregnated carbons.

★ **JAMES BAXENDALE AND SONS LTD.** This subsidiary again made a valuable contribution to the year's trading.

★ **PROSPECTS.** We have a good order book. If inflation as at present being experienced can be brought under control and we can keep our plant and machinery working we shall continue to prosper.

The Annual General Meeting of Sutcliffe, Speakman and Company, Limited will be held at Guest Street, Leigh, Lancashire on Tuesday, 5th August, 1975 at 12.30 p.m.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Beware of absurdities in National Insurance scheme

From Mr C. Cunningham
Sir, I wonder how many of your readers are aware of the absurdities and injustices that are arising from the implementation of the new National Insurance scheme. My impression is that most people are totally unaware that as from April 6 last a new scheme came into being which classifies the population (or tries to) into four insurance classes.

Implementation of the scheme for Class 1 (Employed persons) and Class 2 (Self Employed) is fairly straightforward, although Class 2 is politically controversial. But trouble arises from mixed employment. In my case I draw a salary as a Polytechnic lecturer and also have casual earnings as an Occupational and Forensic Psychologist, on which I pay Schedule D tax.

I have recently been informed by officials of the Department of Health and Social Security that if I earn a penny over and above my salary, I become liable to pay Class 2 insurance contributions as a self employed person and should therefore stamp a card for 52 weeks at the rate of £2.11 per week. I may also be liable, if I earn enough extra, for Class 4 contributions, unless I hold a deferment or exemption certificate.

The implications of this rule

for every professional individual, as well as for the widow who takes in washing to supplement her income from a job, are utterly incredible. In my case it can be interpreted as follows. If, on one occasion during the year, I obtain a fee for writing an article or giving an extra-mural lecture, I become self-employed for the whole year for National Insurance purposes and should obtain a Class 2 insurance card to which I must affix £125.32 in stamps, even though my fee might be as little as £20. I must then reclaim the overpayment of my contributions at the end of the financial year!

To escape paying insurance on casual earnings one must produce an exemption or deferment certificate which should have been forwarded to DHSS at Newcastle by June 6 last. When I applied for one at my local office of the DHSS on May 30 they had run out of stamps, could not produce one until June 13, six days after the deadline date. I have had my application for exemption turned down because it was not submitted by June 6!

Beware all those of you who accept a fee over and above your salary.
CYRIL CUNNINGHAM,
30 Oak Close,
Dibden Parliu,
Southampton.

Let direct labour prove it is able to compete

From Mr J. Brown
Sir, Mr Malcolm Hoppe, who Aims of Freedom and Enterprise in his letter (July 7) refers that council direct labour organizations are, by and large, inefficient when compared with private contractors and that ratepayers suffer considerable losses where direct labour is employed.

Neither Mr Hoppe nor anyone else can make valid comparisons between the two methods of getting work done because the conditions under which they operate are basically dissimilar. Local authority accounting differs from that of industry. Furthermore direct labour departments are tied to one customer which considerably limits their freedom of action.

It is important, however, that direct labour should have to prove that it is efficient and if the comparison is to be made with private industry then the following measures are necessary:

1. All direct labour departments should be set up as limited liability companies with the respective councils as sole shareholders.

2. The direct labour departments should have to compete in open tender for all council work but should also be free to tender for outside work when there is spare capacity.

3. The accounts of the department should be produced in a form acceptable under the Companies Act.

If these reforms were adopted then the efficiency of direct labour could be accurately assessed and Aims of Freedom and Enterprise would be a reality. The Public Finance and Accounting, et al, would have a very much better idea of what they were arguing about.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BROWN,
14 Beverley Avenue,
London, S.W.20

If the Post Office doesn't know

From Dr J. Wilkins
Sir, Having bought on June the index-linked "Retirement Issue" National Savings Certificate, I find it most difficult to get from the Post Office reliable information with regard to the index figure applicable for that date.

The Post Office were bought the certificates and I know it on the day of purchase, while on inquiry at Post Office in this town managed to produce a copy of two figures, viz 129.1 (to myself) and 134.5 (given to my wife who happened to inquire independently at a same office).

Apart from the fact that the figure applicable to a certificate, would it not be obvious "remedy" to have an operative index figure stamped on the certificates by the Post Office on the day of purchase?

Yours faithfully,
J. WILKENS,
40 Brisbane Grove,
Hartburn,
Stockton-on-Tees,
Cleveland.

Sterling stood for quality

From Mr P. Clarke
Sir, The fact that the Royal Mint anticipates having to issue a £1 coin offers an opportunity to open a few eyes to the nature of inflation.

We need have no doubt that the Treasury will issue a full cupro-nickel £1 coin, but one of the private mints should issue simultaneously a pound weight and an ounce weight of silver to commemorate the passing of the £1 note.

Even Cambridge economists could predict that the Wilson £1 would fall in value while the

silver pound retained its value. Inflation is solely a monetary phenomenon. If the Bank of England did not have its monopoly currency powers to issue fraudulent promissory notes the dilution of the pound could not have occurred.

A currency backed by gold or silver would be immune to inflation. The reform is so simple it dismisses the experts, but we have not forgotten that sterling used to be a quality silver, not a national neurosis.

PETER CLARKE,
105 Marylebone High Street,
London, W.1.

High-cost sign of the times

From Mr A. B. Wyand
Sir, The day after an article in your business pages entitled "The need to end high-cost government employment" I see that five out of 10 pages are for central or local government. Is this a sign of the times?

Yours faithfully,
A. B. WYAND,
101 Arlington Road,
Camden Town, London, N.W.1

More unemployment seen as inevitable

Higher unemployment is inevitable if inflation is to be cured, according to Professor Hayek, winner of the Nobel Prize for economics, in a new pamphlet on Full Employment of Man, Price £1.

"The choice open to us is solely between some unemployment in the near future and more unemployment at a later date", he says. He is critical of "attempts, so attractive to the politicians, to postpone the evil day and thereby make things in the long run even worse".

Professor Hayek pinpoints three possible policies in present circumstances. The first would be to allow a rapidly accelerating open inflation

which could continue until it brought about "a complete disorganization of all economic activity".

The second, which he also rejects, is the imposition of controls on wages and prices to conceal inflation. Such controls "would inevitably lead to a centrally-directed totalitarian economic system", he says. Only the third policy, a check on money supply growth, is to be recommended in his view.

Professor Hayek does not respect the current fashion for "gradualism", the policy prescription that the slowdown in money supply growth should not be abrupt because it would conflict with the system's expectations.

One of the most serious costs

of inflation, in Professor Hayek's opinion, is the misallocation of labour it causes by providing inaccurate price signals and promoting industries which are favoured by inflationary conditions. He attributes the high unemployment which would follow a strict money supply policy partly to these misdirections of labour.

This view of the labour market is part of what Professor Hayek terms "the true theory of unemployment", which explains unemployment as being caused by "a discrepancy between the distribution of labour between industries and the distribution of demand among their products".

Tim Congdon

Weston Pharmaceuticals

	1975	1974
Group Turnover	£42,967,537	£38,303,888
Profit before tax	£1,867,049	£1,605,590
Profit after tax	£897,306	£860,783
Earnings per share	6.29p	6.04p
Dividends per share	2.11p	1.94p

A year of continued progress

The improving trend shown during the first half of the year has continued. Group sales were up by 12%, to a record £42.9m and Group profit before tax amounted to £1,867,049, an increase of 16% over the previous year. These results have been achieved despite higher finance charges, a near 25% increase in wages, and a continuing, but smaller, loss, after interest charges, in the pharmaceutical manufacturing division.

The directors have recommended a total dividend of 21%, which is again the maximum allowed under current legislation.

Because of the uncertain economic climate, there have been no major changes in any of the operating divisions. The Board has concentrated on the improvement of Group marketing policies, the rationalisation of inventory mix, the introduction of new stock control systems and a tighter credit control.

In the retail division, 14 smaller and uneconomic branches have been closed. Expansion has taken place, however, with four new acquisitions and one new unit opened in addition to major extensions to eight branches. Sales have increased by 15%, and it is estimated that the division has achieved comparable growth in real terms of approximately 5%.

New wholesale depots have been opened and the division currently operates from twenty-eight depots. The introduction of new marketing and organisational techniques is producing significant benefits.

Group sales and operating costs are in line with budgets for the first quarter and, although the present uncertain economic environment is hardly conducive to long term forecasting, the Board feels that the Group is well placed to face the future in spite of the anticipated considerable increases in all operating expenses.

Copies of the Annual Report are available from The Secretary, Weston Pharmaceuticals Limited, 1 Ormeau Way, Sheffield S13 9LS.

Coltess Group

- * Record Sales and Trading Profit
- * Encouraging Start to 1975

Highlights from the 1974 Accounts and Statement by the Chairman, Mr. Eric S. Gibbons.

RESULTS—Group sales reached record level. Profit from brick manufacturing was reduced but exceptional performance by industrial fastenings division lifted group trading profits to a new peak. Despite higher interest charges, earnings per share were increased.

PROSPECTS—Trading results for the first quarter are encouraging and in line with expectations. Subject to there being no further downturn in demand, Board believes Group should be able to demonstrate a satisfactory trading performance in 1975.

RESULTS IN BRIEF

	1974	1973	1972
Turnover	£5,613,000	£4,388,000	£3,266,000
Trading profit	642,000	526,000	315,000
Profit before tax	401,000	432,000	285,000
Profit attributable to shareholders	199,000	170,000	155,000
Earnings per share	3.8p	3.7p	3.3p
Dividends per share	1.364p	1.259p	1.225p

Copies of the 1974 Accounts and Statement can be obtained from the Secretary, Station Tower, Station Square, Coventry CV1 2GR.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Reksten deal vital for Furness Withy

By Terry Byland
Confirmation in Oslo this week that the Norwegian Government has bought up shares worth 177m crowns from Hilmar Reksten, the tanker magnate, is likely to savour speculation in London regarding a takeover bid for Furness Withy. The statement said the shares had been deposited with Hambros Bank in London.
Reksten's shareholdings included a key 10 per cent stake in Furness. Reksten's problems in tanker finance had brought rumours that he might be forced to sell his holdings.
Shares in Furness Withy closed on Friday at 208p, after reaching 225p a few weeks ago. Market sources consider that these prices reflect bid hopes rather than trading prospects, although the board has predicted that profits will hold up well this year, following a spectacular rise to £24.7m in 1974.
But one snag for a potential bidder is the option apparently granted to Reksten to repurchase the shipping section of his share portfolio by December 15.
The likely candidate for a bid for Furness Withy is Euro-Canadian Holdings, the North American shipping company

Lankro expect drop from last year's 'outstanding' £2.9m

Trading results for the first three months at Lankro Chemicals indicate the 1975-76 performance should be satisfactory as a whole, Mr P. Russell, chairman, writes in his review.
Although he does not expect last year's "outstanding" £2.9m before tax to be matched the chairman says demand for agricultural chemicals continues to be strong, but it is too early yet to talk of an upturn in the markets for plastic urethane and surfactants.
The company is pressing ahead with a major capital programme and even in the current uncertainties is determined to give a good account of itself.
Reed Paper Holdings, the principal holding company in Canada, will subscribe for its full entitlement at a cost of \$40m. The funds will be used to repay bank loans used in acquiring Gold Crest Products and Alpa Industries and also for modernization of pulp and paper facilities.
Reed Paper Holdings, the principal holding company in Canada, will subscribe for its full entitlement at a cost of \$40m. The funds will be used to repay bank loans used in acquiring Gold Crest Products and Alpa Industries and also for modernization of pulp and paper facilities.

Expansion at De Beers

Agreement has been reached for Consolidated Diamond Mines of South West Africa and Premier (Transvaal) Diamond Mining to become wholly-owned subsidiaries of De Beers.
A third company Sea Diamond Corporation is to become an offshoot of De Beers Holdings (Proprietary), also within the group. CDM's board will cancel 86,100 ordinary shares held by shareholders other than De Beers Consolidated Mines in consideration for 2,58m deferred 5 cent shares

Comben Group
The house sales position, which was very difficult towards the end of last year, improved during the early months of 1975 and particularly so in the first-time-buyer range of houses, writes Mr Leon Roydon, chairman of the Comben Group.
But there is still insufficient confidence in the industry to warrant substantial increases in new starts and a situation is building up where there will be a shortage of houses for first-time buyers and at prices. A start has been made on commercial developments and if current projects are successful

Haw Par in Hongkong
Mr Richard Wits, secretary of the Hongkong Stock Exchange said last week's suspension of the shares of Haw Par Brothers International was at the company's request.
He said the company gave no reason for this and he did not know how long the ban would last.—Reuter.
Ingersoll sales up
The products of the watch and cutlery divisions of the Ingersoll Group continue to be well received by the trade and sales to date are ahead of last year, Mr J. Bollow, chairman,

Reed's rights in Canada
Reed International's main Canadian operating company Reed Paper Ltd plans to raise \$46m with a one-for-three rights issue at \$17.5 a share.
Reed Paper Holdings, the principal holding company in Canada, will subscribe for its full entitlement at a cost of \$40m. The funds will be used to repay bank loans used in acquiring Gold Crest Products and Alpa Industries and also for modernization of pulp and paper facilities.

New talks on Panama's Cerro copper mine
Panama intends to negotiate with Texas Gulf on the operation of its Cerro Colorado copper mine. In May it was reported Panama has reduced its search for a company to run the mine to four possibilities after the breakdown of talks earlier this year with a consortium of British, Canadian, and Japanese companies.
Canadian Javelin, a member of the original consortium invested \$23.2m in the project and said it would be reimbursed and given a generous indemnity.

Chemical Bank loan losses
Chemical New York Corporation, the multibank holding company whose principal asset is Chemical Bank, in making known its second quarter results says it has stepped up the provision for possible loan losses charged in the quarter. \$28.4m has now been set aside, \$15m more than former requirements. In the second quarter operating net income rose from \$21.64m to \$28.41m which worked out to \$1.97 a share against \$1.50 previously.
For the half-year to June 30 the group's operating net income was \$56.63m compared with \$40.48m or \$3.92 a share against \$2.81.

Sutcliffe Speakman
There is a good order book at Sutcliffe Speakman, writes Mr S. Livezey, chairman.
The engineering division's export trade continues to flourish and the carbon business will benefit from the completion of the automatic machinery now installed.
If inflation can be brought under control and plant and machinery can be kept working without interference the company will continue to prosper, writes the chairman.

Raine's brick stake
Raine Engineering Industries have acquired 12 per cent of the ordinary share capital of the Sheffield Brick Company.

Thorn, Davy Distillers due this week

The liquor trades stand out in this week's line-up of profit statements. Full results from Distillers and Scotch & New Castle Breweries are due on Thursday, preceded today by the Bulmer cider group. Genia Industry is featured by Thorn, Wilkinson Match, Davy International, Montague Meyer, FMC, Howden Group, an Richardson Westgarth, and Union Discount. Initial Services, and Steenhuis are among other majors reporting.

CARDIFF MALTING
Interim 1.08p (1.04p). Turnover for last year of March 31, 1975 £24,000 (£250,000). Net profit £19,000 (£14,000).
JAMES DENNIS
Interim turnover £2.13m (£1.46m) and pre-tax profit £182,000 (£74,500). Profit forecast for full year of over £300,000 (£232,000).
H. SAMUEL GROUP
Turnover so far this year is well up, and while partly attributable to post budget buying, underlying trend is strong. Board is optimistic.

POSTER BROS CLOTHING
Mr H. High told meeting better first-quarter turnover being maintained and with usual provisions record profit forecast.
SIGHGATE & JOE
Mr R. Burch says world economic situation affecting both oil and protein divisions, but in latter profit should improve in second half.

CARLESS, CAPEL & LEONARD
The listed 4,328,600 ordinary shares, offered by way of rights to ordinary shareholders and underwritten by Lazard Brothers, has closed with acceptances of 97.4 per cent.
BARROW HEPBURN GROUP
Acceptances received for over 89 per cent of the 3,565,872 ordinary shares offered by way of rights.

GOUGH BROTHERS
Chairman told annual meeting that he expects figures for half-year to show "marked increase" in both sales and pre-tax profit.
LONDON & WESTCLIFF PRO
Sentinel Insurance has 500,000 shares, leaving it with stake of 23m shares or 26.4 per cent.

Joint Company Announcement
The Consolidated Diamond Mines of South West Africa Limited (CDM) and De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited (De Beers) (Both incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

The boards of directors of CDM and De Beers announce that they have reached agreement in principle on the undermentioned proposals whereby CDM will become wholly owned within the De Beers Group. It is intended that the proposals will be implemented by way of Schemes of Arrangement ("the schemes") in terms of Section 311 of the Companies Act 1973, as amended, which, if approved by shareholders and sanctioned by the court, will result in the cancellation of those CDM ordinary shares (1,565 per cent of the issued ordinary share capital) and those CDM preference shares (\$9.47 per cent of the issued preference share capital) now in the hands of shareholders other than De Beers or its subsidiary companies.

The terms of the proposed Schemes are:—
Ordinary Share Scheme
i) CDM will reduce its issued capital by cancelling 86,100 ordinary shares of R1.00 each which are held by shareholders, other than De Beers so that De Beers will then be the only holder of ordinary shares in CDM.
ii) In consideration for the reduction in CDM's ordinary share capital De Beers will allot 2,583,000 deferred shares of 5 cents each to the holders of CDM ordinary shares in the ratio of 3,000 fully paid deferred shares in De Beers for every 100 CDM ordinary shares previously held.

Preference Share Scheme
i) CDM will reduce its issued capital by cancelling 2,664,549 7.5 per cent cumulative preference shares of R1.00 each which are held by shareholders other than De Beers and certain of its subsidiary companies so that those companies will then be the only holders of preference shares in CDM.
ii) In consideration for the reduction in CDM's preference share capital, De Beers will allot 2,664,549 newly created 8 per cent cumulative second preference shares of R1.00 each to the holders of CDM preference shares in the ratio of one fully paid 8 per cent cumulative second preference share in De Beers for every CDM preference share previously held.

The ordinary share scheme is conditional on, inter alia, The Johannesburg Stock Exchange and The Stock Exchange London, granting listings for the additional De Beers deferred shares to be issued in terms of the scheme.
The preference share scheme is conditional on, inter alia, De Beers increasing its authorised capital by the creation of 3,000,000 8 per cent cumulative second preference shares of R1.00 each and authorising the Directors to allot and issue 2,664,549 of these shares in terms of this scheme, and on The Johannesburg Stock Exchange and The Stock Exchange London, granting listings for these shares. This scheme is also conditional on the ordinary share scheme being sanctioned.

In the event of the schemes being implemented it is intended that the CDM shares will be cancelled at the date to be announced which is expected to be in November 1975. The holders of the CDM ordinary shares will, therefore, be entitled to receive payment of the interim dividend on the ordinary shares which CDM proposes to declare on 19th August, 1975. Thereafter, shareholders will qualify for dividends declared on the De Beers deferred shares which they acquire. No further dividends declared on the CDM preference shares will accrue to the holders of the preference share scheme shares after the dividend of 3.75 cents per share which was declared on 20th May, 1975 and which will be paid on or about 31st July, 1975. De Beers proposes, however, to declare a dividend of 4 cents per second preference share for the period ending 31st December 1975 payable to shareholders registered in the books of the Company at 19th December, 1975.

The ordinary share scheme has been proposed because the interests of the minority shareholders of the De Beers Group and the diamond industry as a whole, while their presence influences the decisions of the board to a disproportionate extent. In the event of the scheme being implemented, shareholders will retain an interest in CDM through their holding in De Beers while gaining the advantage of the greater security of earnings and potential for growth which De Beers can offer because of the broad spread of its interests both within and outside the diamond industry. There is also a very active market in De Beers deferred shares in contrast to the extremely restricted market in CDM ordinary shares.

The proposed ratio of De Beers deferred shares to be issued in consideration for the cancellation of CDM shares has been determined after taking the above factors into account and after considering market prices, dividends and earnings per share. In the opinion of the Directors the ratio should be attractive to the CDM shareholders while also being acceptable to De Beers.
The preference share scheme has been proposed because it is felt that it would be inappropriate to have preference shareholders outside of the De Beers Group in a company in which the entire equity share capital is held by De Beers. In the event of this scheme being implemented, shareholders will receive an improved dividend income and consequently there is likely to be an increase in the market value of their capital investment, which will also have a broader asset backing.

Separate preliminary announcements have been published today by The Consolidated Diamond Mines of South West Africa Limited (CDM) and Premier (Transvaal) Diamond Mining Company Limited (Premier) respectively, jointly with De Beers, announcing that agreement has been reached in principle on proposals for those companies to enter into Schemes of Arrangement with their shareholders in terms of which those shareholders will surrender their shares for cancellation and will be allotted shares in De Beers in exchange. In the event of those schemes being implemented CDM and Premier will become wholly owned within the De Beers Group.
Further particulars of the Schemes and scheme documents will be posted to shareholders in September.
Kimberley,
11th July 1975.

Interest in dollar bonds

Concentration rather than diversification seems to be the cry in the Eurobond market these days, AP-Dow Jones reports. The dollar's strength against European currencies is continuing to impress investors. Issues in other currencies are thus being neglected. In fact, three new Deutsche mark issues offered this week were partly left.
Of course the dollar's foreign exchange rate has been influenced by an upturn in short-term dollar interest rates. But for the moment, Euro-dollar bond yields are still higher than money market yields.
One issue that proved popular was a \$25m five-year note offering by CSR, a diversified Australian sugar and mining company. After being priced at par, bearing 9.5 per cent, the

Euromarkets

issue moved up in the secondary market on Friday to 99.75-100.5.
An exception to the general buoyancy was a \$15m five-year offering of Gabon, the first Black African state to float a Eurobond.

The week's most successful offering was a \$30m 15-year issue of Tokyo Shibaura Electric Co (Toshiba) offered at par with a relatively low coupon rate of 6.75 per cent semi-annually or 6.86 per cent on an annual coupon basis.
Bondholders received the option of having their bonds redeemed in 1980 at 112, or a profit of \$120 for each bond.

Table with 4 columns: Bond Name, Price, Yield, and Premium. Includes entries for AIGC 10%, AIGC 10%, AIGC 10%, etc.

Weekly list of fixed interest stocks

Table with 4 columns: Stock Name, Price, Yield, and Premium. Includes entries for AIGC 10%, AIGC 10%, AIGC 10%, etc.

Sea Diamond Corporation Limited (SEA) and De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited (DE BEERS) (Both incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

The boards of directors of Sea and De Beers announce that they have reached agreement in principle on the undermentioned proposals whereby Sea will become a wholly owned subsidiary of De Beers Holdings (Proprietary) Limited (Dehold) which is in turn wholly owned within the De Beers Group. It is intended that the proposals will be implemented by way of a Scheme of Arrangement ("the Scheme") in terms of Section 311 of the Companies Act 1973, as amended, which, if approved by shareholders and sanctioned by the court, will result in the cancellation of those Sea shares (23.16 per cent of the issued ordinary share capital) now in the hands of shareholders other than Dehold.

In terms of the proposed Scheme:—
i) Sea will reduce its issued capital by cancelling 3,315,000 ordinary shares of 10 cents each ("the Scheme shares") which are held by shareholders other than Dehold so that Dehold will then be the sole shareholder in Sea.
ii) In consideration for the reduction on Sea's ordinary share capital De Beers will allot 331,500 deferred shares of 5 cents each to the holders of Sea ordinary shares in the ratio of 10 fully paid deferred shares in De Beers for every 100 Sea ordinary shares previously held.

iii) As consideration for the allotment by De Beers of the said 331,500 deferred shares to the holders of the Scheme shares, Dehold will allot to De Beers fully paid shares in Dehold.
The Scheme is conditional on, inter alia, The Johannesburg Stock Exchange and The Stock Exchange London, granting listings for the additional deferred shares of 5 cents each in De Beers to be issued in terms of the Scheme.

The Scheme has been proposed because the interests of the holders of the Scheme shares are not always coincidental in all respects with those of the De Beers Group and the diamond industry as a whole, while their presence exercises a disproportionate influence on the decisions of the board and the board of Marine Diamond Corporation Limited (Marine) in which Sea has an interest of 12.89 per cent in the equity share capital. The remaining shares in Marine are held by Dehold and certain of its subsidiary companies so that Dehold has a direct and indirect interest of 97.01 per cent in the equity of Marine. Sea has no assets other than its shareholding in Marine and it is considered to be extremely unlikely that Sea will ever derive dividend income from Marine sufficient to permit the payment of anything more than nominal dividends to the holders of its ordinary shares. Any such dividends could only be paid after Sea had settled its indebtedness to a fellow subsidiary company, paid any preference dividends, and redeemed its redeemable preference shares. However, in the event of the Scheme being implemented, shareholders will become entitled to dividends declared on the De Beers deferred shares which they acquire after the date of their allotment, which is expected to be in November 1975. While the shareholders will retain an interest in operations in the areas held by Marine, through their holding in De Beers they will gain the advantage of the greater security of earnings and potential for growth which De Beers can offer because of its wide spread of investments both within and outside the diamond industry.

It is considered, therefore, that the implementation of the proposed Scheme will be to the benefit of all concerned.
Separate preliminary announcements have been published today by The Consolidated Diamond Mines of South West Africa Limited (CDM) and Premier (Transvaal) Diamond Mining Company Limited (Premier) respectively, jointly with De Beers, announcing that agreement has been reached in principle on proposals for those companies to enter into Schemes of Arrangement with their shareholders in terms of which those shareholders will surrender their shares for cancellation and will be allotted shares in De Beers in exchange. In the event of those schemes being implemented CDM and Premier will become wholly owned within the De Beers Group.
Further particulars of the Scheme and scheme documents will be posted to shareholders in September.
Kimberley,
11th July 1975.

Joint Company Announcement
Premier (Transvaal) Diamond Mining Company Limited (PREMIER) and De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited (DE BEERS) (Both incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

The boards of directors of Premier and De Beers announce that they have reached agreement in principle on the undermentioned proposals whereby Premier will become wholly owned by De Beers. It is intended that these proposals will be implemented by way of Schemes of Arrangement ("the schemes") in terms of Section 311 of the Companies Act 1973, as amended, which, if approved by shareholders and sanctioned by the court, will result in the cancellation of those Premier preference shares (6.32 per cent of the issued preference share capital) and those Premier deferred shares (1.56 per cent of the issued deferred share capital) now in the hands of shareholders other than De Beers.

The terms of the proposed Schemes are:—
PREFERENCE SHARE SCHEME
i) Premier will reduce its issued capital by cancelling 119,129 250 per cent cumulative preference shares of 5 cents each, together with the arrears dividends thereof which are held by shareholders other than De Beers so that De Beers will then be the only holder of preference shares in Premier.
ii) In consideration for the reduction in Premier's preference share capital De Beers will allot 161,904 newly created 8 per cent cumulative second preference shares of R1.00 each to the holders of Premier preference shares in the ratio of 1,600 8 per cent fully paid cumulative second preference shares in De Beers for every 100 Premier preference shares previously held.

DEFERRED SHARE SCHEME
i) Premier will reduce its issued capital by cancelling 498 deferred shares of 25 cents each which are held by shareholders other than De Beers, so that De Beers will then be the only holder of deferred shares in Premier.
ii) In consideration for the reduction in Premier's deferred share capital, De Beers will allot 498 deferred shares of 5 cents each to the holders of Premier deferred shares in the ratio of one fully paid deferred share in De Beers for every one Premier deferred share previously held.

The Preference Share Scheme is conditional on, inter alia, De Beers increasing its authorised capital by the creation of 3,000,000 8 per cent cumulative second preference shares of R1.00 each and authorising the directors to allot and issue 2,664,549 of these shares in terms of this Scheme and on The Johannesburg Stock Exchange and The Stock Exchange London, granting listings for these shares.
The Deferred Share Scheme is conditional on, inter alia, The Johannesburg Stock Exchange and The Stock Exchange London, granting listings for the additional De Beers deferred shares to be issued in terms of the Scheme and of the Preference Share Scheme being sanctioned.

The Schemes have been proposed because the interests of the minority shareholders are not always coincidental in all respects with those of the De Beers Group or the diamond industry as a whole, while their presence influences the decisions of the board to a disproportionate extent. The company's only significant source of revenue is the Premier mine which is at present a marginal operation and even if it were profitable it has been submitted to the Department of Mines for the lease of the State's interest in the mine with a view to reducing the high overall share of profits to which the State is entitled, it is unlikely that shareholders will benefit in the foreseeable future as it is expected that unavoidable capital expenditure will absorb any operating profit. Because of the low level of profits and the need to meet capital expenditure, no dividends have been declared in recent years so that dividends on the preference shares are in arrears from 1st May 1968 and no dividend has been declared on the deferred shares since 1927. In the event of the Schemes being implemented shareholders will become entitled to dividends declared after the date of allotment which is expected to be in November 1975, on the De Beers shares which they acquire. De Beers proposes to declare a dividend of 4 cents per second preference share for the period ending 31st December 1975 to shareholders registered in the books of the company on 19th December 1975.

Shareholders will retain an interest in the Premier mine through their holding in De Beers while gaining the advantage of the security of income and potential for growth which De Beers can offer because of its broad spread of interests both within and outside the diamond industry. There is a further advantage to shareholders in that the shares which they acquire will be readily marketable whereas Premier shares are not quoted on any stock exchange.

It is considered, therefore, that the implementation of the proposed Schemes will be to the benefit of all concerned.
Separate preliminary announcements have been published today by The Consolidated Diamond Mines of South West Africa Limited (CDM) and Premier (Transvaal) Diamond Mining Company Limited (Premier) respectively, jointly with De Beers, announcing that agreement has been reached in principle on proposals for those companies to enter into Schemes of Arrangement with their shareholders in terms of which those shareholders will surrender their shares for cancellation and will be allotted shares in De Beers in exchange. In the event of those schemes being implemented CDM and Premier will become wholly owned within the De Beers Group.
Further particulars of the Schemes and scheme documents will be posted to shareholders in September.
Kimberley,
11th July 1975.

SAVILLS
PROPERTY INVESTMENT

20 Grosvenor Hill · Berkeley Sq · London W1X 0HQ
Telephone 01-499 8644 · Telex 263796

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

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